A WINDOW OPEN ON THE WORLD

The UNESCO Courier

UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

DECEMBER
1955
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THE UNITED NATIONS

1945 : Where did we go from there ?

1955 : Where do we go from here ?

A FRANK APPRAISAL

19
HAPPY
BIRTHDAY
UNC
many happy
WOOP

The UNESCO Courier
A WINDOW OPEN ON THE WORLD

Vol. VIII — No. 7 DECEMBER, 1955

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COVER PHOTO

"Human fly" clinging precariously to wall high over New York's East River waterfront is a cleaner working (in perfect safety) on one of the U.N. Secretariat Building's 5,400 windows. A crew of 14 cleaners works full time washing the 6,600 windows in the U.N. Headquarters.
(UNATIONS)

IN the short space of ten years the U.N. has been called practically everything, from the greatest hope for mankind to a talking shop for overpaid diplomats. Is has been praised, it has been decried and attempts have been made to write it off completely, but in the words of Ralph J. Bunche, "It is after all not only the best we have, but all we have. Indeed what alternative to it is there but resignation to World War III."

Organizing for peace is nothing new in the world: "And they shall beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more" was, after all, said seven centuries before Christ. From the Pax Romana of the Roman Empire, through the congresses and concerts of Europe in the 16th and 17th centuries, there has been a growing belief that an international organization might achieve—and keep—peace.

This belief has persisted in modern times and The Hague, Locarno and the League of Nations at Geneva are stepping stones along the path which led to the Opera House building in the city of San Francisco on a hot June day in 1945. Assembled there were the plenipotentiaries of 50 sovereign States who affixed their signatures to a document which was designed to be a new code for humanity—the United Nations Charter. This Charter brought into being the most ambitious experiment the world has yet seen in international co-operation.

To what degree has the United Nations been successful in upholding the high ideals set out in the preamble to the Charter? Has it been successful in saving succeeding generations from the scourge of war? Has it achieved unity in maintaining international peace and security? As yet no complete answer can be given to these questions. The U.N. has had its failures, but it has also had its successes. No mention of the stresses and tensions of the post-war years can fail to omit the part played by the U.N. in Korea, Palestine, Kashmir, Greece and Indonesia. At the same time it would be impossible to ignore the abortive discussions in the Security Council on questions which could have led to international conflicts, and the "lack of teeth" in some of the U.N.'s political machinery.

But despite its failures the U.N. still remains as one of the greatest moral forces in the world of today. It is, perhaps, the only basis on which civilization may rest its hope to survive, and peoples can seek to avoid the indescribable catastrophe of thermo-nuclear destruction.

As the U.N. celebrated its 10th anniversary on October 24th, it was a good occasion to take stock and attempt a frank appraisal of what it has achieved. In this issue an effort has been made in that direction.

Dear Jenny

by Herbert Abraham

A FATHER BRINGS THE U.N.'S TEN YEARS INTO PERSPECTIVE FOR HIS 15 YEAR OLD DAUGHTER

UNATIONS

A TIME OF MOMENT– A MOMENT OF SILENCE

JUNE 24, 1945: Fifty nations assemble at San Francisco to sign the United Nations Charter. Here, Senator Tom Connally affixes his signature for the U.S.A. as officials and Press look on.

OCTOBER 24, 1954: Delegates from 60 nations rise in General Assembly hall at U.N. Headquarters, New York, for moment of silence and prayer before the sitting opens on United Nations Day.

Walking into a cinema after the film has started

At fifteen, you are interested in a good deal that happens —much more than you were a couple of years ago. You read the newspaper. You noticed that there was a meeting at San Francisco to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the United Nations Charter. You know that top statesmen from the U.S.S.R., the U.S.A., the U.K., and France have met in Geneva. We have talked about the Geneva meeting on peaceful uses of atomic energy.

It strikes me that one of the difficulties at your age in reading the news is that it is like walking into a movie after the film has been running for an hour. It is a big crowd scene, and people are rushing over the landscape like mad, but it is not quite clear who is going where and why.

It has happened to all of us. The human crowd scene has been running continuously for six thousand years of recorded history and heaven knows how many millenia before, and each of us has had to figure out what it was all about and then walk into the picture and play a scene.

In the movies, of course, you can sit through the next showing until you came to the point where you say "this is where I came in". But when you start taking an interest in the social scene, you cannot go back to where you came in.

You were born into a world at war

In fact, it is easier to go further back—to times long before you came in. You study history: and what is history except a way of extending your memory. Study history, and you can "summon up remembrance of things past". But the history we learn in school, even if it is called modern history usually stops just before *we* appeared on the stage. It is too recent, too controversial, to get into the textbooks. Also, it comes at the end of the school year, when the teacher is in a hurry. History may have extended your memory, but there is a blank spot—those years just before you were born and since you were born—the times your mother and I have been living through. I would like to fill in that gap a little. For now, as you begin to look around the world scene, now when the United Nations celebrates its tenth anniversary, now when the talk is of the peaceful use of nuclear energy—now is a time to learn or to recall these recent times past : now is a time to remember.

You made your entrance in 1940. You were born into a world at war. The second world war had begun one year before. German armies had overrun Poland. Russian forces had occupied Eastern Poland and the small Baltic states, and had fought against Finland. In those summer months of 1940, fifteen years ago, German armies seized Norway and Denmark, Belgium and Holland, overwhelmed French and British troops.

You were five years old when the war ended. During one third of your fifteen years, most of the people on the face of the earth were concentrating their energies and their resources on making war. Germany, Italy and Japan were allied. They were known as the "Axis". In 1942, it seemed that they were destined to rule the world. From Brittany in the West a thousand miles into Russia in the East, from the northern tip of Norway to Athens, the German armies and air forces were supreme. Their submarines ranged the oceans. On the other side of the globe, Japanese sway extended far into Asia, through Burma and the lands of the South, over the great islands of Indonesia, far West into the Pacific Ocean. Across North Africa the struggle raged for control of Egypt and the Middle East.

At this time, the countries which had been attacked by the Axis, led by the U.S.A., and the U.K., and U.S.S.R., and China declared that they would co-operate with one another in conducting the war, and they spoke of themselves as the United Nations.

By the spring of 1945, Russian and American and Western European armies had forced their way into Germany, and they had brought to German cities the storm of destruction from the air which their own cities had previously experienced. Italy had been occupied. The American navy was striking ever nearer the home islands of Japan.

It was at that time, when their victory was assured, but while the slaughter of war still continued, that the allied countries—those that had called themselves the United Nations—agreed at San Francisco to establish a permanent organization : the United Nations.

Like you, the United Nations was born in a world at war.

Some people might think that I am putting too much stress on war. But I have to tell the story the way I see it and that means for me that I must start with the fact that the United Nations started in a time of war. I do not see any use in telling you about the past and closing my eyes and your eyes to this basic fact. A good deal that has happened in the last ten years does not make much sense unless you remember that the United Nations began as an association of the countries that were resisting the Axis powers and that the Charter was drawn up by those countries.

There is another reason why the story has to start with war. Before you can think about the *United* Nations you have to know something and think something about *nations*. In the story of nations war has been a repeated and often a dominating theme. You have got to start with and accept that fact, in order to see not only why it is essential to organize the nations for peace but also to understand why it is a difficult thing to do. It is not enough to be enthusiastic for world peace, or for something that you vaguely know about called the United Nations. You have got to have a solid realistic basis in knowledge and understanding.

War, and the ruin and misery of war were what we had been living through in those first five years of your life. You will find this reflected in the opening words of the Charter of the United Nations :

"WE THE PEOPLES OF THE UNITED NATIONS DETERMINED

to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, which twice in our lifetime has brought untold sorrow to mankind..."

Now I would like you to think for a minute about what is involved in trying to prevent war. One way of going about it is to try to handle particular disputes and stop them from growing into a war. You would try, so to speak, to stop each particular war from happening. But obviously this is not good enough. You would try also to go deeper and to get at underlying causes of wars. You would try to make it less and less likely that the kinds of disputes would arise which result in wars.

Peace keeping is like crime prevention

You can see something like this if you think about problems of preventing crimes. We need to have ways of handling particular crimes and particular criminals. We have a system of laws, and police, and law-courts, and punishments. But at the same time we want to change the conditions that produce crimes and criminals. To the best of our knowledge about "the causes of crimes", we want to act along various lines. If extreme poverty is one of the causes which leads the people to crimes, we will see whether we can alleviate poverty. If mental illness is one of the causes, we will try to improve our way of caring for mentally sick people. If bad schools and bad home life seem to be a factor, we will think of ways of improving the conditions under which children live.

The people who drew up the Charter of the United Nations thought along two main lines for *(Cont'd on page 9)*

UNATIONS

USIS

YES-NO Since 1945 when representatives of three of the "Big Five" nations—Eden, Stettinius, and Molotov—(photo left) chatted amiably in San Francisco after signing of the U.N. Charter, political differences have marked the U.N. scene. In 1945 people mistook a statement of high purposes for the actual achievement. Those hopes have since been tempered by a down-to-earth understanding that differences do exist between nations but can be settled peacefully. Above, Henry Cabot Lodge and Selwyn Lloyd of U.S.A. and U.K. vote "Yes" at Security Council. Below, Vishinsky of U.S.S.R. votes "No". Top, voting in Political Committee of General Assembly.

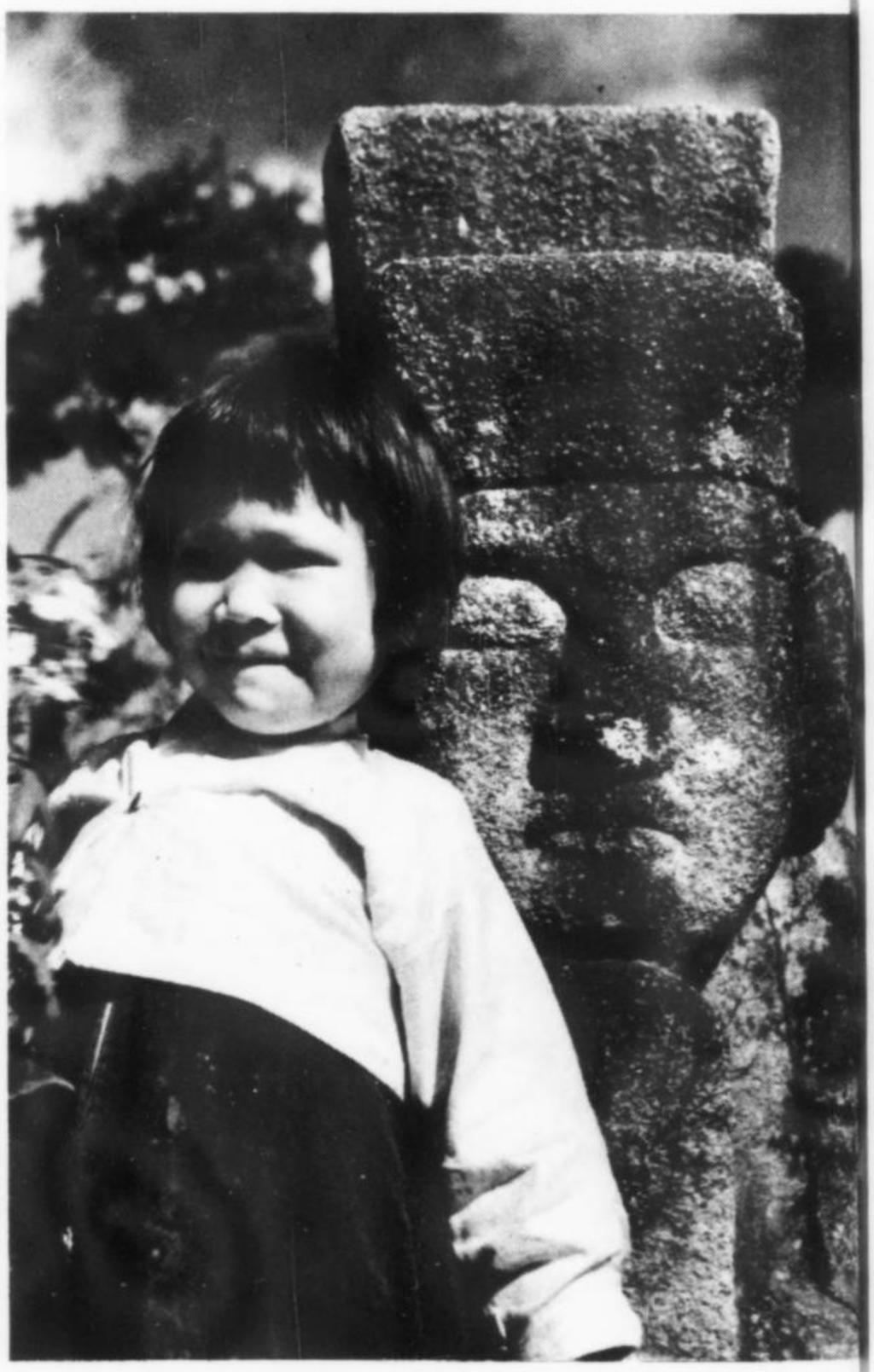
USIS

UNATIONS

REBUILDING THE LAND OF THE MORNING CALM

War and devastation came to the Land of the Morning Calm in 1950. Almost overnight, peaceful villages and towns of Korea with their bustling markets and riverside washing places (above) became shattered, burning ruins. Civilian refugees, first in thousands and later in millions, crowded the narrow roads (below, left) seeking safety from the fighting. During the first winter, the U.N. Civil Assistance Command had to feed, house and care for 2,000,000 refugees whose numbers eventually grew to 5,000,000. When an armistice brought peace in July, 1953, Koreans with the aid of the U.N. Korean Reconstruction Agency began reconstruction of their war-shattered economy. UNKRA also helped to provide new schools and books for children like the Korean farmer's little daughter (below, right).

UNATIONS



Dear Jenny

(Continued from page 6)

stopping wars. One line was to stop particular wars from occurring by handling each dispute as it arose more wisely and by having a system for maintaining order and security. The other main line was to strike deeper at the causes of war, and to bring about conditions under which it was easier for people to work together co-operatively.

I want to explain later some of the arrangements that are provided in the Charter.

But first let us extend our memory a bit more, and recall some more facts about the nations which were now proposing to be "United Nations". People like myself looked back from 1945 to the years before this six years' war of 1939-1945. We looked back thirty years to another war, which once we had called the World War, but now sadly called the First World War. Our memories of that war and what had happened since have coloured our ideas of what might possibly be done to save future generations from the scourge of war. To his memories, each added whatever knowledge and wisdom he possessed, and each had his own view of the situation of the human race. I give you here a few recollections. Take them only as examples of things many of us remember, and which were present in our minds ten years ago.

It was in Europe that the two world-wide wars had started. Not barbarian tribes, not bandit chiefs, but nations which prided themselves on being the centres of civilization, launched these wars and dragged the rest of the world along. (In the first war, Germany and what was then the Austrian-Hungarian empire and Turkey fought against Russia, France, England, Belgium, Italy, and other countries. In 1917 the United States of America came into it).

Threat of international anarchy

THE First World War shocked millions of people. They had honestly believed that the "advanced" nations of Europe, inheritors of the Christian tradition and of democratic ideals, were progressing toward permanent peace. They were shocked too by what seemed the utter senselessness of those countries going to war. These were countries that lived by manufacture and by commerce with one another. They had everything to gain by employing for peaceful production and trade their elaborate systems of credit, their tremendous industries, their skill in harnessing the energy supplied by coal and electricity and oil.

With so much to lose by war, how did it come about that these countries had brought this catastrophe on themselves and the world? And could it be prevented from happening again? Those were questions men asked themselves as they waited for the interminable misery to end. And the questions are still with us.

There was one consideration which gave some grain of hope. These countries had in their various ways brought a system of law and order *inside* their boundaries. Their people, most of them certainly, wanted peace. There was much intelligence and much skill in managing public affairs. Was it not reasonable to suppose that they could solve the problem of organizing affairs *among* themselves?

One of the influential ideas about the time the First World War ended was the idea of "international anarchy". Anarchy is simply "lack of government". International anarchy is lack of government among different countries. The phrase was used to describe the situation in which countries found themselves, and many people thought it was the basic reason why war had occurred.

During the last 400 years people of the West became fairly well organized as separate nations, and some of them became extremely powerful and extended their rule over other peoples. Especially in Africa and Asia.

Looking back over the experience of the centuries before, thoughtful people felt that the nation states had got themselves into a dilemma from which it was hard to escape. On the other hand, they prized and clung to the idea of their complete independence—but this very independence could lead to tragic results. An independent person makes his own decisions, and we admire him for it, but if he makes his own decisions without paying the least attention to what other independent people are wanting or doing, and if he insists that he and he alone will choose his own course of action without caring in the least about its effects on any one else, then he is headed for trouble. In fact, inside any nation state, or inside any kind of group, we have found ways of putting the brakes on completely independent action of that kind.

But the nation states claimed for themselves and insisted on just that kind of disastrous complete independence of action. And if any one challenged their claims, they were ready with their armed forces to get their own way. Within a nation state there was a system of law, of police, of law courts, with all manner of arrangements for deciding what rights an individual had and for protecting him in his rights. But *among* the nation states there was no system of law, no way of determining what the "rights" of a country were, no way of protecting a country's rights except through its own strength.

Nations were claiming rights one against another: it might be over a piece of land they disputed with their neighbour, it might be over some right of trading at the other end of the earth, it might be over a right to rule some group of people for reasons which seemed quite satisfactory to the ruler, or it might be the right to bring about the freedom of people who were ruled by another nation. And if any of these claims led to a dispute with another country, there was no power outside the two of them with authority to insist on a peaceful settlement.

Six million voters backed the League

HERE then was part of the problem. How could nations remain independent and still avoid the disastrous results of their own unlimited independence?

When the First World War ended, and the peace treaties were made, the idea was strong that we must end the "international anarchy". Accordingly, an agreement was drawn up (known as the "Covenant") by which the League of Nations was established. President Wilson, of the USA, was one of the statesmen who insisted most strongly on this. The League had a general assembly, and a smaller executive committee (the Council). The countries in the League agreed to submit their disputes to the League, and use all possible ways of coming to a peaceful agreement. If necessary, the Council would make a decision. A country that defied the Council and attacked of the other would be declared an "aggressor". The Council would recommend action to be taken by the other members of the League, to stop the aggressor. (We called this "imposing sanctions").

You can imagine how hopeful people were that the League would turn out successful. In the first ten years, it settled quite a number of disputes. In 1935, there was a vote in England that showed that six million out of the eight million who voted were willing to back the League even to the extent of imposing "military sanctions", i.e. going to war against an aggressor.

Yet the League failed. The second World War eventually came. In the years 1930 to 1939, aggression did occur, and the governments in the League did not get behind the League to stop it. They could make excuses. Did you know that the United States did not join the League? Other governments could say, "We can't stop an aggressor if the USA doesn't help". Or they could say, "We are peaceful, we have reduced our armaments, we can't make war. Besides *this* dispute won't really matter to *our* people".

When aggression seemed to pay

SO aggression seemed to succeed, and to increase.

Yet, when we pass a verdict of "failure" on the League of Nations, let us remember how near it came to success. There was a moment in 1935 when a great country, Italy, was declared an aggressor, and the members of the League seemed prepared to enforce sanctions. But the governments finally drew back.

We remembered all this in 1945. We wondered—if the USA had joined, if USSR had joined earlier, if the League had met one severe test successfully? Perhaps we could do better next time.

The first World War came as a surprise and a shock. We moved toward the second knowing that tragedy was in the making.

In the Far East, Japan had become a modernized industrial state. She had learned from the West not only science and technology, but the idea that a great industrial power must have colonies. And the idea was strong in Japan that the Japanese had a right—or a duty—to govern other peoples. From 1931 on, those Japanese who were determined to establish a Japanese empire increasingly got control in Japan. First in Manchuria, then later in China itself, Japanese armies were on the march. The League declared Japan an aggressor (1932) but the governments took no action whatever against her.

(Cont'd on next page)

Dear Jenny
(Continued)

Mussolini, the fascist dictator of Italy, joined the ranks of aggressors. He picked on Abyssinia, one of the few independent countries in Africa. This was in 1935. This was the time when the League of Nations almost succeeded. But in the end Mussolini was left alone, and another "backward" people lost its freedom.

Then it was on Hitler that the eyes of the civilized world were fixed, in horror. The German people had set up a democratic republic after the First World War. In spite of the burden of reparations they had to pay, and the terrible inflation which had made their money worthless, and the bitter resentments which (naturally enough) were felt against the peace treaty, still it seemed in the nineteen twenties that Germany would become a centre of humane and liberal and democratic life.

Instead, in 1933, Hitler and his Nazi party came into power. They exterminated liberalism and democracy. Opponents were thrown into concentration camps. The Jewish people were marked for persecution and for slaughter. The Germans it was proclaimed, were a master race. The Nazi empire would last a thousand years. And nothing, nobody, would be allowed to stand in its way. Many people in other countries could not believe this. They thought the stories of concentration camps were exaggerated. They let Hitler persuade them that each time he claimed some territory, Germany had some kind of "right" or this was his last demand and Hitler would settle down peacefully.

In 1938 he was allowed to take part of Czechoslovakia: it was inhabited partly by Germans. But in March, 1939, he took over all of Czechoslovakia. That was the climax of efforts to "appease" Hitler. When he moved against Poland on September 1, Britain and France declared war.

We remembered all this in 1945. Wilful, conscious aggression does occur. We had seen it occur. The need seemed all the greater to set up a strong system to deter and stop aggressors.

We asked ourselves, what led Germany and Italy and Japan into this course of military adventure and aggression. What might lead other people along the same route? Four ideas that seem to me to be very important are reflected in the Charter of the United Nations.

End to economic throat-cutting

FIRST of all, we looked back over the 30 years since the first World War ended, and concluded that the terrible economic collapse and the depression in the early nineteen thirties was one of the causes of the failure of the League of Nations. It was during this depression that Hitler came into power in Germany. In this world where nations claim to be so independent, they are terribly interdependent, or dependent on one another, economically. A collapse of business in one country reaches out and affects other countries. If nations could plan to work together on economic problems they might better be able to hold off economic depressions. Instead of trying to cut each other's throats in international trade, they might be able to increase international trade and increase one another's prosperity.

Secondly, as we looked around the world it was obvious that from country to country people lived under very different social and economic conditions. In a few favoured lands, the resources of science and technology were used not only to increase production and raise the standard of living but to guard people against plagues and pestilence, to give the children schooling, and to enrich their cultural life.

At the other end of the scale people were still the victims of famine and diseases and ignorance as they have been for centuries. Such a lack of balance is bound, it seems, to produce strains and tensions, jealousies and fears, that might result in war. Should not the countries of the world co-operate in sharing the benefits of science and technology? And would not this co-operation not only bring material benefit but demonstrate and strengthen a new spirit of international sympathy?

Thirdly, there was the fact known to all of us that many peoples were ruled by foreign nations, and especially that the nations of Western Europe ruled empires in Asia and Africa. Equally well known was the fact that throughout the world the yearning and demands for free independence was growing. Here, historically, was one of the recurring sources of conflict. Could not a fresh spirit be introduced here too? It was not for this new international organization to tell countries they must at once give up control of other territories, but the nations could and did put into the Charter the basic idea that in governing "dependent" peoples a nation had a duty to assist those people to develop toward self-government.

Fourthly, you will remember that the Charter was written by countries which were resisting the Axis powers. As they asked themselves what steps had led the Axis powers to make war, they recalled how during the past 20 years individual freedom had been reduced and destroyed in those countries. The destruction of human rights inside a country, they thought, was one of the basic steps by which its people were moulded and prepared for war. They believed therefore that it was essential to assert and maintain individual freedom and that the countries that joined the United Nations ought to work together for this purpose.

Stay out of Europe's quarrels

THESE recollections of the years before 1945 would be quite incomplete if I didn't speak a little about the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (which for convenience, we'll speak of simply as Russia).

The U.S.A. had far and away the largest industries in the world. In many fields of industry it produced as much as the rest of the world put together. Since modern war uses the same resources as peaceful production, the U.S.A. was also the strongest military power at the end of the second war.

After the first World War, many Americans—perhaps most—had had the feeling that they didn't want to get mixed up in any more of "Europe's" quarrels and the U.S.A. stayed out of the League of Nations. This feeling was very strong right down to 1939. But the U.S.A. did get involved again; and the attack by Japan on Pearl Harbour finally brought them into the war. Now, in 1945, few Americans believed that they could go back to "isolation". They remembered such things as I have been telling you. They believed they must join in a new world organization.

Rivalling the U.S.A. in its strength was Russia. The revolution in Russia nearly forty years ago (in 1917) had brought into power the Communist party. They had set about making Russia a great industrial power. It seemed that they had succeeded, for they had fought their way back against the invading Nazi armies. In spite of the terrible destruction to their country in the years of invasion, their capacity to recover seemed unlimited.

Now it is a simple historical fact that the Russian revolution and the policies of the Communist party had aroused the most violent feelings in the rest of the world. There were those who believed that Russian communism was the hope of the world: that only the acceptance of their system could finally liberate the world from poverty and war. And the Communists believed that the powerful non-communist countries were looking for the opportunity to destroy communism. At the other extreme, many people believed that the Communists were bent on destroying capitalism by revolution and war. One of the chief excuses given by Fascists and Nazis for their policies was that they were protecting their countries from communist revolutions.

One can find plenty of facts to justify all these mutual fears.

A new factor — the atom bomb

BUT in 1945, both U.S.A. and U.S.S.R. had been allies in the war against the Axis. Both had come into the war as a direct result of being attacked. Both wanted peace. And if these two great countries would join in a new organization to keep peace, and if both could be counted on never to launch an aggressive war—then peace might be assured.

Finally, there was the atom bomb. How could we fail to remember that. It was only on August 6, 1945, that the world learned that an atom bomb had been made: on that day Hiroshima was destroyed. Four days later a second bomb destroyed Nagasaki. Within ten days Japan had laid down her arms.

Here was a new fact. Men could lay waste whole cities at a single blow. And the bomb had in fact been used.

The Charter of the United Nations had been completed some weeks before the destruction of Hiroshima. The atomic age and the United Nations were born together.

I think I'll stop here and go on with my story later.

BURLAP BAG FOR A PILLOW. This little girl gently stroking her grandfather's head symbolizes the plight of Palestine's Arab refugees. The U.N. and many of its agencies have brought relief and shelter as well as schools to one million of these unfortunates since 1950.

UNATIONS

CLAY STATUETTES AND DEAD LOCUSTS illustrate work of two U.N. Agencies. Statuettes are among few home industries of El Salvador's rural areas where International Labour Organization is now advising on labour and industrial problems. Dead locusts are harvest of Food and Agriculture Organization's anti-locust campaign aimed at protecting Middle East crops against these marauders.

1945: Where did we go from there?

I HAVE tried to give you an idea of some of the problems we were conscious of when the Organization of the United Nations was formed. And I have tried to do this in part by recalling some of the events which we vividly remembered. There we were, then, in 1945, and the leaders of the countries which had called themselves the "United Nations"—united in war against the Axis powers—were assembled in San Francisco to establish a permanent organization.

Their problem: how can countries go on being "independent" without getting into war with one another? Two main lines of action were:

first: make some arrangements for settling disputes peacefully as they arise, and at the same time, make arrangements to stop a country that starts a war;

second: make some arrangements for curing ahead of time the conditions that might lead to disputes and war.

You might re-read these last few lines, and then read these *purposes* of the U.N., which are stated in the Charter:

"1. to maintain international peace and security;

2. to develop friendly relations among nations based on respect for the equal rights and self-determination of peoples;

3. to co-operate in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural, or humanitarian character, and in promoting respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all; and

4. to be a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in attaining these common ends."

In the first purpose, the word "security" refers to what I have called the first main line.

The second purpose is connected especially with the fact that countries want to be "independent"—and to have their independence recognized and accepted by other countries.

The third purpose relates to what I call the "second main line".

Stop for a moment and consider the fourth purpose: "to be a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in attaining these common ends". It answers a question which may have occurred to you: why set up an organization? I mean, if countries want to co-operate and settle disputes peacefully, or combine to stop an aggressor, and so on, can't they do it easily enough?

Why organize? The reason for setting up an organization is to make co-operation easier, habitual and systematic. In our personal affairs, we don't go far in carrying out good intentions without forming good habits and doing things systematically. In any social groups—including, of course, such big social groups as nations—we take it for granted that we need systematic arrangements for getting things done co-operatively. We certainly need to strengthen co-operation among countries by making it easier, more habitual, more systematic. The tendencies to fly apart, to work at cross purposes, to get into irreconcilable antagonism are terribly strong. We need a centre—or centres—for "harmonizing our efforts".

Now I want to explain some of the arrangements that were made for carrying out the purposes of the U.N. First, here are some general points, then arrangements about "security", and then arrangements for international co-operation in other matters.

The U.N. is an organization and its members are the independent countries which join it. As in most organizations the members meet the expenses by paying annual contributions. They hold an annual meeting which every member has a right to attend. This is the General Assembly. The Assembly may discuss any question or any matters within the scope of the U.N. Remember, the U.N. is an organization of independent countries, not a new kind of super-government. Consequently,

SUCCESS STORIES

Two U.N. agencies — the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Health Organization — have scored outstanding success since their creation in 1946 and 1948 by saving millions of mothers and children doomed to starvation and diseases like malaria, yaws, TB and trachoma. Here a Punjab mother beckons smilingly to her child at news that U.N. team has reached village.

UNATIONS

the General Assembly cannot do some things that a legislature does, such as pass laws or impose taxes. It can express views of the members and can make recommendations to its members, and decide what things the Organization itself will do.

As to membership, you will recall that the U.N. started with the countries that were fighting against the Axis. They were the founding members. Membership is open to all other "peace-loving" states. Many of us thought in 1945 that all other countries would become members quite quickly, but it has not worked out that way. The question of admitting new members has been mixed up with arguments on other matters between some of the member countries, and some applications for membership have been rejected. Most people would agree, I think, that the U.N. cannot be completely effective unless all countries belong.

Another general point : The members of the U.N. make quite a number of promises when they accept membership. These promises are not written in the form "we promise to do so and so". They are *implied* promises. They appear in such phrases as these: "All members shall give the United Nations every assistance in any action it takes in accordance with the present Charter." When we join an organization whose constitution contains statements like that, we virtually promise to accept the obligations.

The arrangements for maintaining *security* (that is, for settling disputes and stopping aggression) are intelligible, but not simple. The chief responsibility for this part of the work was given to a committee called "The Security Council". The Council consists of 11 member countries. Six of them are elected by the General Assembly. The other five are *permanent* members; they are named in the Charter : China, France, U.S.S.R., United Kingdom and U.S.A.

This Council may investigate any dispute, or even any situation that might give rise to dispute. It can recommend methods for settling the dispute. It can decide that some country has committed an act of aggression, and can then call on the members to help stop the aggression by cutting off trade and similar procedures. If it thinks necessary, it can decide to use force and call on the member states to supply the necessary armed forces. The members of the U.N. promise to carry out decisions of the Security Council,

(Cont'd on next page)

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THREE WORLD TROUBLE SPOTS

Three world trouble spots for U.N. in past ten years: (1) Indonesia. By careful negotiation U.N. avoided civil war in Dutch East Indies and brought new State of Indonesia into being in 1948. Left, newly independent citizens in Djakarta cry "Merdeka" (freedom). (2) Palestine. Despite armistice U.N. has not achieved permanent peace agreement. U.N. truce commission officials discuss border disorder, centre. (3) Greece. U.N.'s diplomatic manœuvering helped end bloody civil war in Greece and avoided general war in Balkans. Far left, U.N. Peace Observation Commission was active on northern Greek frontier until 1954.

Dear Jenny

(Continued)

even including the decision that they shall contribute from their armed forces to stop aggression.

There are two points about the Security Council which many people have found hard to undertand. First, there is the fact that five countries are named as permanent members. The second is this: at every point in its work, except questions of procedure, "decisions shall be made by an affirmative vote of seven members, *including the concurring votes of the permanent members*". The phrase I have emphasized means that any one of the permanent members can prevent the Security Council from reaching a decision by voting "no" (there are some exceptions to this, but I do not want to confuse you with these). The power that a permanent member has to stop a decision from being reached by saying "no" is popularly called "the veto power".

People have argued vehemently whether these two points I have mentioned—permanent members and "veto" power of permanent members—are strengths or weaknesses of the Security Council (and therefore of the U.N.). I shall try only to give you my understanding of why they appear in the Charter.

You must go back to 1945. There at the table were representatives of the countries which had poured out their resources to resist aggression. Measured in various ways— their past leadership, their present strength, their future probable strength, the strongest of these countries, it seemed, were China, France, U.K., U.S.S.R., U.S.A. It would depend on these five to carry the main burden should it ever prove necessary again to resist aggression. If they agreed, step by step, up to the final terrible point even of using armed forces, they could stop any foreseeable aggression. But if they disagreed, if one or more of these great powers was unwilling to join in a decision and consequently could not be counted to help in the ultimate emergency, then the prospect of successful resistance to aggression was slight indeed.

Rather than forcing the issue by a majority vote against the will of one of its permanent members, it would be better to try again and find some approach on which all would agree. To put it quite briefly: A decision on such important matters by a split vote among the permanent members would be as bad as and possibly worse than no decision at all. The responsibility was placed on the five permanent members to exert every possible effort to find solutions in which all of them concur.

I hope that what I have said will help you to understand references to the Security Council and to the "veto", when you read about them in the newspapers, and I hope you will try to get much more information through your studies before you make up your mind about the many difficult problems involved.

A subsidiary point about the Security Council: I mentioned above that some countries have applied for admission to the U.N. but have been rejected. The Security Council has been involved in this. New members are admitted by the General Assembly, but the application goes *first* to the Security Council, and a permanent member can "veto" it. This use of the veto has annoyed many people.

The second main line of U.N.'s work, I said, is international co-operation to improve conditions which may lead to disputes. What is involved? Bad conditions in almost every field of human activity can contribute to ill-feeling, tension, hostility. There is no end to these social and economic problems: poverty and disease and ignorance; poor resources and badly used resources; poor soil and bad farming; little industrial equipment and little skill in using it; most of the people in the world live under these conditions. They are socially and economically under-developed.

But that is only part of the problem. Countries can be economically well developed, but have social and economic troubles, as we all know: depressions, for example, or quarrels between employers and employees. They make trouble for one another sometimes by the very action they take to ease trouble at home: through high tariffs on foreign goods for example. How then can the United Nations help to solve these problems? That is, how can we help one another through this international organization?

The U.N. is not going into a country to build factories and hospitals and schools. It has neither the money nor the authority. Yet perhaps it can help.

Naturally, we start by appointing a committee ! We call it the Economic and Social Council. And the Council sets up more committees—which we call Commissions. There are Commissions on economic problems of different regions of the world—Europe, Asia, Latin America. There are Commissions on different subjects: the status of women, human rights, narcotic drugs, social problems.

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WELDING INTERNATIONAL LINKS in a Dutch shipyard. Here Jugoslav workers, awarded study fellowships by the International Labour Organization, help Dutch welders build the keel of a tanker. One of the oldest specialized agencies, I.L.O. has brought government, labour, and employees together to solve industrial problems, raise standards of wages and working conditions.

We reflect: our Economic and Social Council has an enormous field of work, so have the Security Council and the General Assembly. We do not want to over-load our organization. Perhaps it would be better to set up some separate organizations, each of which will look after a special set of problems. Health, for example. And Agriculture. We recall that the nations have already set up some "specialized" organizations. We have long had the Universal Postal Union which sees to it that letters can move easily from country to country. And already, when we had the League of Nations, we had set up the International Labour Organization to promote better conditions for workers. Good: we will have more of these specialized agencies.

Here are some of those we now have.

To promote *better labour conditions and social justice:*

International Labour Organization.

To promote *better agriculture and food production:*

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

To promote *co-operation through education, science and culture:*

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

To promote *co-operation in international aviation:*

International Civil Aviation Organization.

To promote *investment of capital* so as to help economic development:

International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

To promote *better health:*

World Health Organization.

There is the Universal Postal Union, and there are others, dealing with money problems, and radio, and weather (I mean information and research about weather).

All these are usually referred to, rather familiarly, by their initials, or one word in their name:

ILO, FAO, UNESCO, ICAO, BANK, UPU, FUND, ITU, WHO, WMO.

As a teacher, I wish the statesmen could have made all these kinds of committees and agencies easier to learn. Anyway, there is the United Nations Organization, turned into a large family of organizations, with lots of small children in the way of commissions, committees, boards, and so forth. We have organized for action: what do we do?

Most of what the United Nations does sounds so dull that I am almost afraid to tell you. Look at this, from a newspaper I read this very day:

The Proceedings in the U. N.

Sept. 12, 1955.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

United Nations Children's Fund, Executive Board —Heard preliminary reports on joint project of specialized agencies to improve nutrition in underdeveloped areas.

Heard a report... Not much in that !

But look a bit further. United Nations Children's Fund (or UNICEF) is something very special. *You* can contribute to it, directly, yourself, and not merely through your government. When I was in Belgium last year I saw large signs in the streets urging people to give to UNICEF. The money is used to help children—all over the world, without regard to race, creed, nationality or political belief. Let a government say, we have urgent need—and UNICEF will help (if it has enough money).

Reports are not exciting. But read this—from an official report:

"UNICEF provides equipment and supplies, primarily in rural areas, for maternal and child welfare centres, children's hospitals or wards, school health services, clinics, laboratories. Assistance includes midwifery kits; scales, thermometers, needles, syringes; transport; hospital equipment, drugs; serum, vaccines, common medicines, soap, disinfectants; powdered milk, fish-liver oil capsules and other diet supplements; health education materials; dental training equipment... UNICEF provides dried skim and whole milk and fish-liver oil capsules containing vitamins A and D, rice and sugar, for supplementary diets to be furnished over a period of years."

Fifty or sixty countries contributing and thousands of individuals besides: sixty million children in seventy countries saved from hunger or pain. There is perhaps something in this idea of "harmonizing our efforts" and "co-operating to solve social problems"

But back to that report on nutrition.

Here is something more about it—also from this same day's newspaper :

U.N. CHILD FUND TOLD OF NEW FOOD AIDS:

United Nations, N.Y.; Sept. 12—*New protein foods are becoming increasingly available to benefit the malnourished children of the world, the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund heard today.*

The prospects for raising nutrition levels in underdeveloped areas are brightening, the twenty-six-nation board was told.

Preliminary reports on the project, in which the children's fund is co-operating with the World Health Organization and the Food and Agriculture Organization, were submitted by spokesmen for each.

Dr. King, an adviser to the Children's Fund, mentioned the probability of "substantial progress" by using high-quality protein foods such as soybean, cotton seed, sesame seed, peanut and palm nut products in Africa, Central and South America, the Near East and India.

Still rather dull: Research. Proteins. Technical problems. Spokesmen for Specialized Agencies.

Yes, but these spokesmen are talking about the possibility that something will happen which has never happened before—that a thousand million people may have enough to eat. Perhaps one can forgive these research specialists paid by WHO and FAO and UNICEF for doing rather dull work. A dozen men from a dozen countries studying how to use soybeans or peanuts—perhaps that too is not such a bad way of harmonizing our efforts.

This then is part of what the U.N. and the other agencies do: studies, reports.

A centre for harmonizing human efforts must also be a centre of "intelligence": In time of war, "intelligence" is an essential activity; it means gathering information and analyzing it and giving it to the people who need it.

(Cont'd on next page)

ICY GEYSER shoots skywards as trapped ice patrol boats dynamite huge icebergs to clear blocked waterway off Greenland. International co-operation to ensure safety at sea will come under the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization when the Convention for this organization has been ratified by 21 states.
U.S. Coast Guard UNATIONS

SNOWY PEAKS of Kashmir's mountains form mighty backdrop for camp of U.N. observers supervising cease fire agreement, pending plebiscite to decide whether Kashmir shall become part of India or Pakistan. After 1948 fighting over this question, U.N. mediation commission persuaded both countries to agree to a cease-fire.
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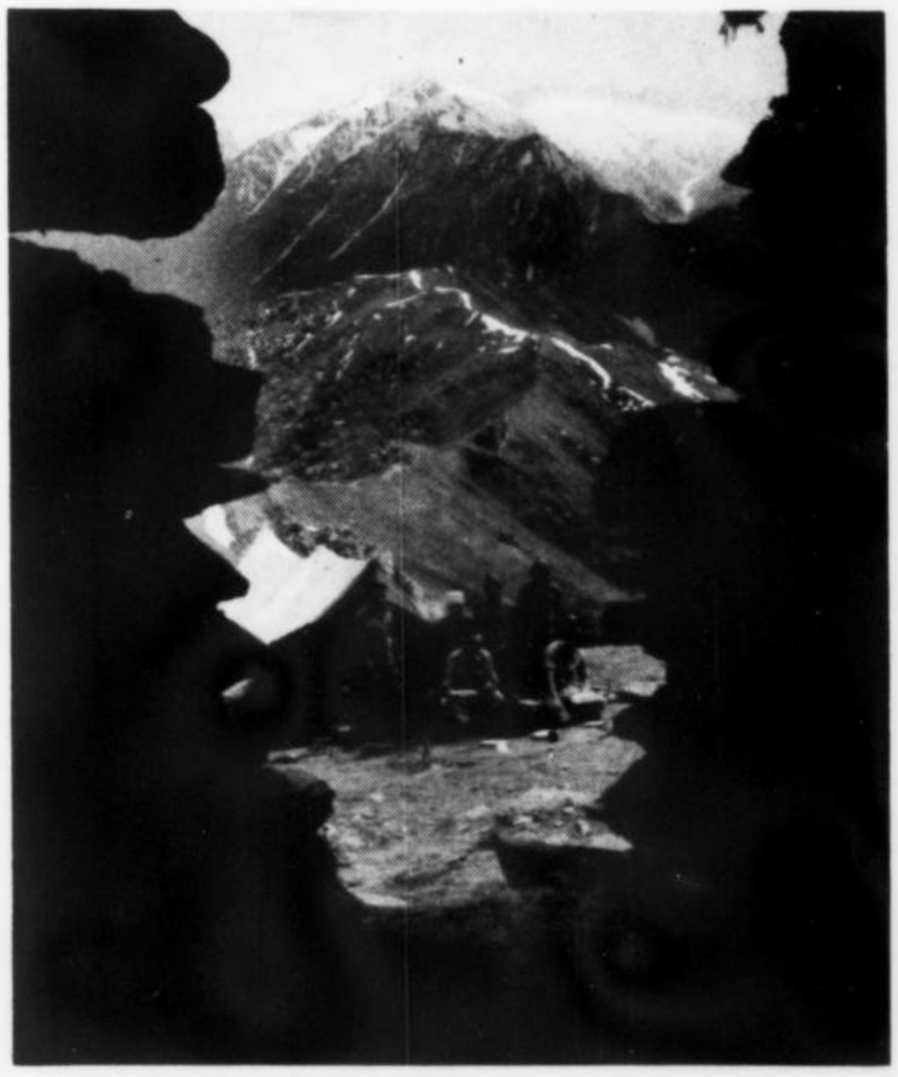

Dear Jenny

(Continued)

In the war against ignorance, and poverty and disease, we need intelligence. Going back to my newspaper, I read that the tenth annual meeting of the Board of Governors of the World Bank and the Monetary Fund opened in Istanbul yesterday. It says: both institutions presented optimistic reports about the world economy. About the world economy! the economic systems of the whole world! Some people had done a lot of intelligence work.

In the seemingly dull part of U.N.'s work, I would include "conferences". To bring people from several countries together and let them merely talk, that doesn't seem to amount to much. True, a conference may be on so technical a question that only experts can understand what is being said. True, many a conference has no immediate practical result that any one can see. There is no reason why most of us should be particularly interested in a lot of these conferences. But occasionally, all of us perceive that a conference *may* be important. A conference may be a sign that we yearned for, that the spirit of co-operation lives and may prevail.

Enshrouded in secrecy and fear

THAT is how the Geneva conference on the peaceful use of atomic energy appeared. For ten years we have heard that nuclear energy may serve to enrich the life of men. But so far as we could see, the governments that were spending billions of dollars on developing the use of nuclear energy were putting that money into bombs. The destruction of man's life, not its enrichment, seemed to be the most likely result. All was enshrouded in secrecy and fear. And now, through the United Nations, they meet, they talk, they exchange information, vague dreams of enrichment of man's life take form and substance. Is this the turning point? It is possible.

What, then, besides conferences and studies and reports? Three things occur to me. They are: Declarations; International agreements; and Technical Assistance.

By a *Declaration,* I mean here a statement on some important matter that has been agreed to after careful study by representatives of different countries. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights is the best known example. It was drawn up by the Commission on Human Rights, after months of discussion, and it was "proclaimed" by the General Assembly on December 10, 1948. It is a short document!

ALL CASTES AND CREEDS receive equal care and treatment at tuberculosis centre, Patna, India—one of two set up by Government of India with help from World Health Organization and U.N. Children's Fund. As in most of world, there is a shortage of health workers at Patna. Centre trains doctors, health visitors, nurses, technicians, provides model T.B. control service with latest laboratory and X-ray equipment.

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Thirty sections ("Articles") each of only one to four sentences.

Article 1 reads:

"All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood."

Article 2 begins:

"Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status..."

This is Article 9:

"No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile", and here is part of Article 26 :

"1. Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free, at least in the elementary and fundamental stages. Elementary education shall be compulsory. Technical and professional education shall be made generally available and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit."

Why is this Declaration important, so important that December 10 is celebrated in many countries as "Human Rights

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PETITIONS FROM THE PEOPLE of the Cameroons—some of the 19,000,000 around the world who live in Trust Territories—are presented to visiting U.N. Trusteeship Council Mission in palace courtyard of Fon of Bikom, ruler of the Bamenda Province. Of eleven U.N. trust territories, four have advanced far towards self-government—in line with U.N. Charter aim: autonomy for dependent peoples.

Day"? The main point, I think, is this: The Declaration sets some *standards* for society, and the member countries of the U.N. have said: "We accept these standards." If men are subjected to torture, if they are denied fair hearing by impartial tribunals, if they are persecuted for practising their religion—these are only examples—it is no longer an offence against a few or against the people of one country only—it is an offence against mankind.

To proclaim a standard in itself guarantees no freedom, restores no liberty, improves no social condition. To proclaim a standard is indeed merely to say some words, and the words may be ambiguous, and the words may be ignored and they may be forgotten. Some of the words and phrases of the Declaration are ambiguous; and no doubt much of it will often be ignored by governments. But I do not think these words will be forgotten. They have been spoken on behalf of all mankind.

I turn next to *international agreements.* I mean agreements made by governments that they will follow a certain course of action, and do whatever is necessary to carry it out. A single example is an agreement drawn up by Unesco by which countries undertake to eliminate customs duties on

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FIFTEEN JUDGES sit on the International Court of Justice, principal judicial organ of the U.N., at the Hague to consider disputes between states. Matters on which it has delivered judgment include the violation of territorial waters, the granting of political asylum and the question of extra-territorial rights. Court's eminent judges represent world's main legal systems and cultural patterns. Their decisions help strengthen international law.

books, periodicals, newspapers and many types of educational, scientific and cultural materials, twenty countries have accepted this agreement, and as a result such items are easier to get and cheaper to buy.

Finally, there is "*technical assistance*". You know what is meant by "underdeveloped countries". How can U.N. help them to develop? Not, at present at least, by giving them much money. Countries that are better developed have not come to the point of contributing huge amounts—it would have to be some hundred millions of dollars, at least, I think —which U.N. can give or lend at very low rates of interest for building schools, hospitals and things like that. For some kinds of economic development countries can borrow from the International Bank, of course, and from private banking organizations. There are many other ways in which particular countries are helping one another to develop, economically and socially. But U.N. and the other agencies are given only a limited amount of money to put into this kind of work: about twenty-five million dollars a year (the figure varies from year to year).

It has been decided that the best use of this money is to help countries get some of the well-trained people they need, and give a little of the equipment they need. For example, in health work, WHO may help a country set up a demonstration project, and send a doctor, a sanitary engineer and a nurse, and give some scholarships for training medical students and public health workers.

The experts from many countries, working in underdeveloped countries in every continent—these are the living examples of international co-operation to solve social and economic problems. I read a piece in a Unesco publication the other day that made the "technical assistance" and international co-operation real and vivid to me. It was a letter, too. It was written by Mr. Weber, a Dutch expert. He is working for FAO in Uttar Pradesh, India, at the foot of the Himalayas.

Scorched earth legacy from the past

WRITING to a Dutch girl named Hanny, he said: "In former days there was much fighting in this region and the rival forces had a bad habit of setting fire to each other's forests. The result was that the forests gradually disappeared. The mountains were left bare, the springs and wells dried up— and without water the land is barren. In the Spring, however, when the snows melt, and also during the rainy season of June and July, heavy torrents come rushing down from the mountains; the rivers flood and the fertile topsoil is washed away. So the slopes of the mountains are left bare except for cactuses and pine trees on the rocky subsoil.

"This is the country in which the Paharis live—and you can well imagine that they are anything but rich. That is why the Government of Uttar Pradesh—the State in which these mountain regions are situated—thought it necessary to help the population and asked for *technical assistance from the United Nations* to aid in the many schemes they have launched for afforestation, land reclamation, community development, etc. The U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization sent me out here and now I am joining hands with the Government and the people to improve their state of affairs. But all I can do is to give some advice; it is up to the Paharis to develop their own country.

Things began moving in Ranikhet

IN this way I came into contact with the school in Ranikhet—a small town of 6,000 inhabitants. The college has some 700 students. They are learning history, literature and other interesting subjects, but they badly want to study chemistry, biology and physics which will give them the basic knowledge to develop their country. Funds for laboratories, however, were not available. So last year I came back to Holland to tell you and my friends in the Rotary Clubs what is going on in the Himalayas and to ask for your help. And you did help ! The students of Haarlem and the Rotarians collected almost 13,000 florins (about $3,400 or 16,000 rupees) and Unesco sent the money to us as Gift Coupons.

"Then things started moving in Ranikhet. On May 11, the Netherlands Ambassador to India, Baron van Pallandt, came over to Ranikhet to present the money to the Governor of Uttar Pradesh.

"For the occasion, the school organized a magnificent exhibition of Kumaon art, mostly connected with sacred subjects. We also exhibited that pile of letters from the Netherlands, together with postcards showing windmills and tulip fields. Do you realize that the pupils here are so poor that they cannot spare the money to buy a postage stamp? I gave them ten rupees, so they'll soon be answering you.

"Now I still have to tell you what is being done with all the money you collected. Unesco has promised to buy the apparatus at special discount and to forward it to India. This means that every cent, every "kwartje" (quarter of a florin) will be used for the purpose for which it was meant: to equip the school's three new laboratories.

"Meanwhile, we have also collected some money here to erect the laboratory buildings. It's an expensive business, but volunteers from the Rotary Clubs are going to help the students with the construction work and that will save money. What is more, we are getting another 10,000 rupees from the Indian Government to buy the building materials—bricks, timber, nails, etc. Thus we shall achieve our aim, thanks to Unesco, and thanks to the many people in Holland and India who have helped us so generously."

1955: Where do we go from here?

I have tried to tell you about some of the reasons why the U.N. was established, and about the arrangements the countries have made for working together through the U.N. and related Agencies. I have omitted much. A postscript is needed. Where do we stand today?

There hasn't been any magical change. When we set up an organization, we didn't give it a fairy's wand. A war is one way—the worst way—of settling some disputes for a time. The second world war settled the question whether Hitler was to rule the world. But the roots of war—and how deep these roots are in us, we do not know—are not destroyed by a war.

Each war adds something to our legacy of hate and fear, as well as to the immediate misery of living people. The tensions that existed before it continue, in new forms, sometimes, and sometimes in more violent forms. So, for those who dreamed that all would be calm, and that the United Nations had triumphed, these last ten years have been a period of disillusionment.

I am not going to take you on a world tour of the points where disputes have arisen in the last ten years. There are so many disputed claims, so many old hates and fears, so many smouldering tensions.

A new Republic was born

Some disputes have been placed before the United Nations, and peaceful settlements have been reached. Take the question of the Netherlands and Indonesia as an example. You know (perhaps!) that the Netherlands (or Holland) has for many years ruled islands in the Pacific. (How easily a Westerner like myself says islands in "the Pacific", as if we were speaking of a few coral reefs! It is seventy million people we are speaking of). After the war, the Indonesians sought their independence. There was misunderstanding and fighting. The United Nations has helped to bring about a peaceful arrangement, by which an independent Republic of the United States of Indonesia was established.

There are different views on the extent to which difficulties arising between peoples who decide to be independent and those who govern them are properly to be examined and acted on by the United Nations. These difficulties have been, and are, among the most troublesome of our age. There is no doubt that in this case the United Nations contributed greatly to a peaceful settlement.

I am bound to speak about what has been called the "cold war". In these years we have seen the antagonism between communist and non-communist countries embittered. Each group has feared any settlement that might strengthen the other. So no peace settlement dealing with Germany was reached, and Germans remained divided. Only recently was an agreement made about Austria. In China a civil war has had the result that the communists are in power on the mainland, and the old government is on the island of Formosa. And this in turn intensified the fears of those who feared the spread of communism.

Fears felt in communist countries were nourished by some actions of Western countries: the fact, for example, that they built bases for military aircraft and formed an organization to defend one another (North Atlantic Treaty Organization).

From the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R., came reports that the construction of atom bombs and hydrogen bombs was proceeding apace. This intensified the fears of everybody.

In 1950, North Korean forces invaded the Republic of Korea. The Security Council decided that this was a clear case of aggression. (The decision was not "vetoed"; U.S.S.R. at that time was not sending its representative to the Council.) Armed forces from some countries, but chiefly from U.S.A., were sent to Korea. Forces from Communist China later helped the North Korean army. And the land of the Republic of Korea was devastated by war. It lasted over three years before a truce was reached.

The "cold war" and the Korean conflict have led some people at some time to doubt whether the U.N. was much use. The permanent members of the Security Council obviously were *not* working in full harmony with one another—and what use was the rest of the work of the U.N. if it could not maintain security?

I can't take this pessimistic view. It seems to be true—just as the Charter assumes—that the U.N. cannot *enforce* peace by making war against a great power. At least, that is my conclusion. The enforcement would itself be a catastrophic war. Therefore, we are in fact still left depending on the ultimate willingness of the great powers to refrain from pushing their disputes to the point of war.

The fact remains, however, that the great powers have *not* pushed their disputes to the point of war. I don't know, any more than anyone else, what considerations have influenced the leading statesmen in various countries. Personally, I think that at least one consideration is that they earnestly want to avoid war. And the United Nations, with all the arrangements I have spoken of, has made it easier to keep open the doors for discussion and negotiation.

It is not very satisfactory, of course, to say that ultimately world peace depends on the willingness of a few great powers to settle their disputes peacefully. But this is the situation we have to live with. The best we can do is to make it as easy as possible to settle the disputes peacefully and to make it less likely that disputes will arise or, if they arise, that they will not become so bitter as to result in war. And for that we need the U.N.

Our task, then, is to make settlements among countries as well as we can, as peacefully as we can, and to the best of our ability to advance human freedom and social justice at the same time. It is an endless task, I suppose. But this is the direction in which we must move and this is the direction in which we are moving as we work increasingly together through the United Nations.

Cato had a moral for us

Looking at the work to be done from this point of view, I stop asking myself: How far has the United Nations succeeded? The United Nations is not a pupil to whom I give good marks or bad marks. It is not the United Nations that is on trial, it is all of us, all governments, all peoples, ourselves. We can ask, have the members—the countries and their peoples—worked together as they ought through the United Nations? Well-informed people, and those ill-informed will differ in their opinions—people of different countries will differ about one another!

For my part, when I consider how deeply rooted are the tensions among people, how passionately and with what conviction conflicting doctrines are held, I am astonished rather that the principles and methods of the United Nations have commanded as much support as they have.

The ideals and principles which are expressed in the United Nations were not created by the United Nations: they gave birth to this particular Organization, and I believe that their strength in human affairs has been thereby increased.

It is late in the life of human society to begin organizing internationally for world-wide co-operation. But I recall the answer of eighty-year-old Cato when he was asked: "Why are you beginning to learn Greek at the age of eighty?" He replied: "At what other age can I begin?"

We have begun.

UNATIONS

RIDER WITH A MESSAGE

Giant equestrian figure in bronze, symbolic of Peace, stands in gardens near U.N. Assembly building. It was the work of Jugoslav sculptor, Antun Augustincio, and was given to U.N. by Jugoslav Government.

SIXTY NATIONS ON 18 ACRES

ON an island by the Atlantic Ocean lies the world's most unusual independent territory. It covers only 18 acres and has a population of only 3,500 people. Every evening, the inhabitants put on their hats and coats and spend the night elsewhere, leaving a handful of guards to watch over it until morning. No money is minted but the authorities issue their own postage stamps and their radio station broadcasts programmes in 25 languages. It speaks five official languages and sixty national flags fly in front of the white fence which separates it from the rest of the island. But it also has its own flag: a map of the world flanked by olive branches on a pale blue background. The island, of course, is Manhattan, in the heart of New York City, and the territory the site of the United Nations Permanent Headquarters—the nearest thing to a world capital yet achieved by man.

42nd Street and First Avenue

U. N. BUILDINGS shown here comprise, from left to right: the General Assembly Building; the Conference Area (along the East River); the tall Secretariat building; and the Library.

In December 1946, few of the waterfront properties facing New York's busy East River were as unimpressive as the section of cobblestoned streets, lined with meat-packing houses, breweries and run-down tenements, bounded by 42nd Street, 48th Street and First Avenue. And few would have guessed that within nine months all these buildings would be crashing down under the hammers and bulldozers of demolition gangs or that in less than four years the staff of United Nations Headquarters would be moving into their 39-storey office building on the spot previously occupied by slums and warehouses.

★

The transformation was set in motion through a dramatic offer made by John D. Rockefeller, an American philanthropist and financier, to purchase the property as a permanent home for the United Nations. On December 14, 1946 the U.N. General Assembly meeting in temporary quarters at Flushing Meadows, on Long Island, accepted the offer. Then New York City bought and gave to the U.N. the remaining land needed to round out the Headquarters site as it exists today. The City also undertook a $30,000,000 improvement programme in the immediate area, including the construction of a tunnel to take First Avenue traffic underneath what is today the United Nations Plaza.

★

Set against the green of trees, grass and gardens, the group of building which make up U.N. Headquarters today has little in common with the scene it replaced. On the 18 acre site, now international territory, and the property of the United Nations, stand the low-domed Assembly Building, with its great meeting hall, the tall glass and marble workshop of the Secretariat, the long rectangle on the river side given over largely to conference chambers, and the Library building.

★

The Secretariat Building, tallest of the group, consists of 39 storeys rising 505 feet above street level and going three storeys underground. Its exterior facings are of aluminium, glass and marble. A total of 2,000 tons of Vermont marble was used to face the windowles north and south ends of the building. Fitted with blue-green glass, each of its 5,400 aluminium framed windows is specially made to absorb the heat and reduce solar radiation. An air-conditioning system of some 4,000 units allows individual control of temperature in each room.

★

Council chambers and conference rooms are housed in a long, low-lying structure fronting along the river. The main part of the building is occupied by the chambers of the Economic and Social Council, the Trusteeship Council and the Security Council. Each hall has exactly the same dimensions and is completely equipped with simultaneous interpreters' booths, as well as press, radio, television and film booths.

★

Artists from three Scandinavian countries—Denmark, Norway and Sweden—employed their native arts in the decoration of the three Council chambers. In designing the Economic and Social Council chamber, Sven Markelius, of Sweden, achieved a dramatic effect by contrasting sombre colours in the public gallery with concealed lighting under a suspended ceiling and a white marble floor in the delegates area. The chamber of the Trusteeship Council, designed by Finn Juhl, of Denmark, combines colour and fine woods to achieve a light, clean harmonious effect. Walls are lined with ash wood which acts as an acoustic baffle. Arnstein Arneberg, of Norway, who designed the Security Council Chamber, worked round a mural symbolizing future peace and freedom painted by the Norwegian artist Per Krohg. The walls are marble and the doors are set in inlay wood.

★

Second largest building in the U.N. Headquarters is the home of the General Assembly, a marble and limestone building whose low sweeping lines stand in sharp contrast to the tall Secretariat Building. The huge auditorium provides seating for 750 delegates, 270 observers, 234 members of the press and 800 members of the public.

DESTRUCTION, RECONSTRUCTION AND RESURRECTION

Huge mural—twenty yards long and nearly four yards high—on mankind's struggle for a lasting peace was painted in the corridor outside the Trusteeship Council chamber by the Dominican artist, José Vela Zanetti. Mural begins with the destruction of a family and ends with its resurrection. Concentration camps, air bombings and all the agony of modern war are symbolized in the painting, in centre of which a gigantic four-armed figure (section shown here) is implanting the emblem of the United Nations as keystone in man's reconstruction of a war-torn world. (UNATIONS)

TURBANED VISITOR from the Punjab, India, seeks information. U.N. Information Section is equipped to answer questions in the five official languages of the U. N. and several others.

People from the world around come in increasing numbers every day to visit the U.N. Headquarters buildings, unique in structure and grouping. Nearly all visitors take advantage of the guided tour, a service run by the American Association for the United Nations. The guides are sixty-five young women, a third of them born outside the United States. Most are university graduates. Many hold several degrees. Among them, they speak seventeen languages fluently. After careful training, they tell the United Nations story in their own varied individual ways. They are briefed daily on current U.N. activities.

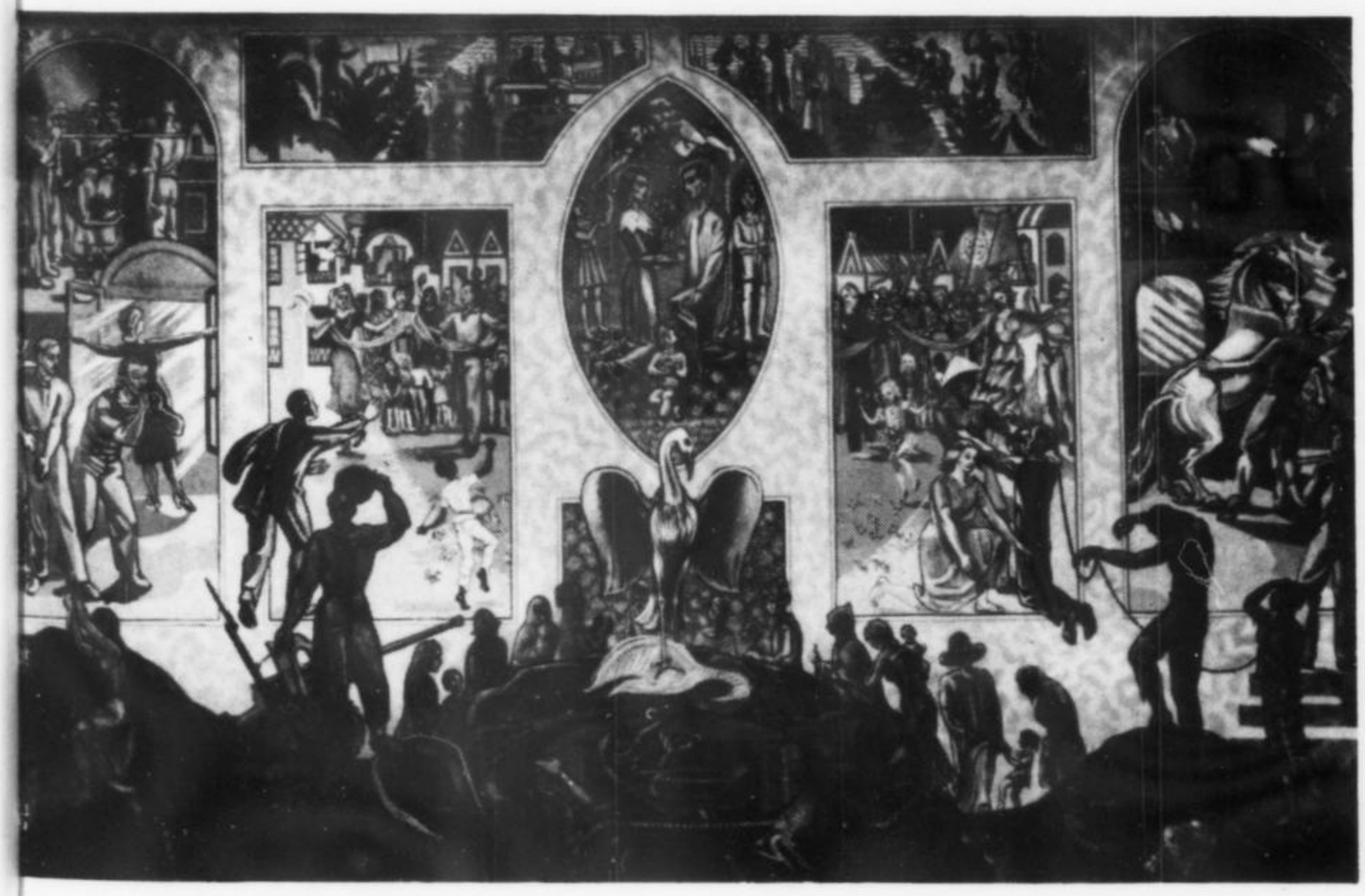
★

Here are answers to some of the questions U.N. guides are most frequently asked by visitors:

- Fifteen miles of carpeting in strips three feet wide are used throughout the Headquarters.
- Twenty operators man the U.N. switchboard. *(Cont'd on page 24)*

PEACE, PROSPERITY, EQUALITY

The largest tapestry ever woven—43½ by 28½ feet—now hangs on the north wall of the delegate's entrance to the U.N. General Assembly Building. Gift of the Belgian Government, the tapestry depicts Peace, Prosperity and Equality. In centre, the dove of peace approaches the fountain of goodwill. Views of the chief cities of some member states line the borders. Predominant colour among tapestry's many hues is green, universal symbol of life and traditional colour of peace. Tapestry was designed by Antwerp artist Peter Colfs and woven under the direction of Gaspard de Wit at the Royal Belgian Art Factory.

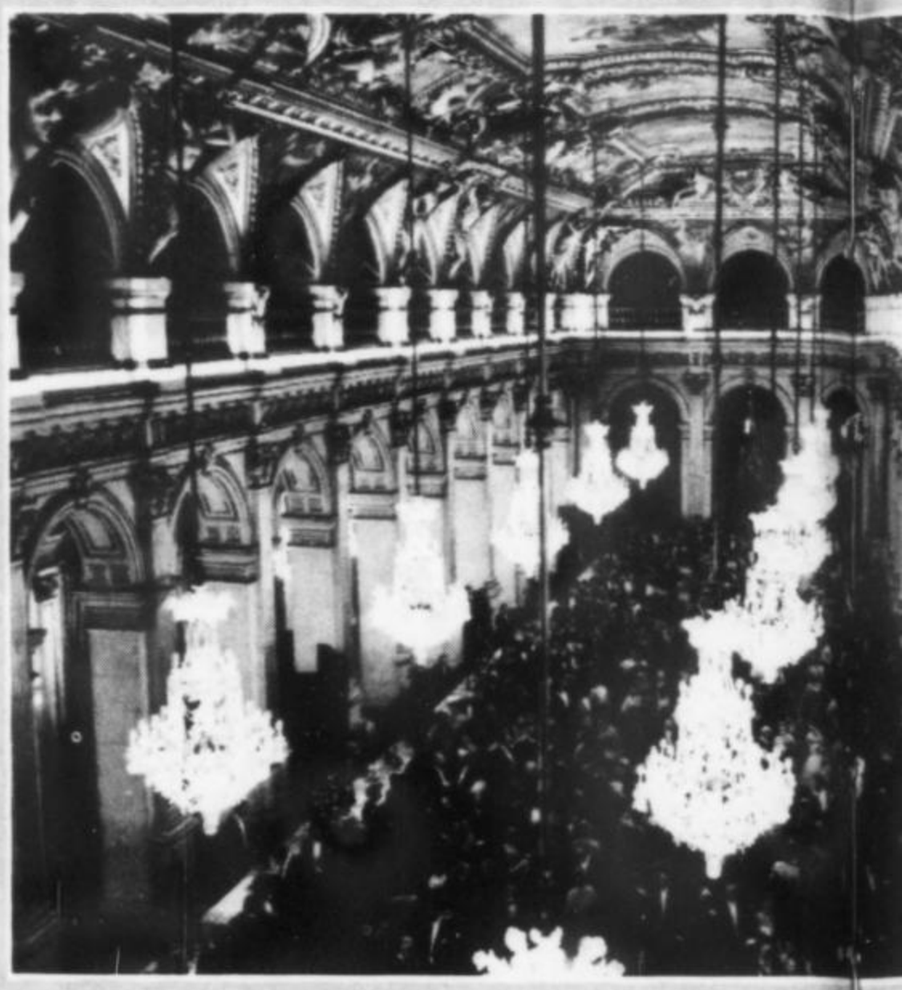


BROTHERHOOD FREEDOM, HUMANITY,

Arnstein Arneberg, of Norway, who designed the Security Council Chamber worked around this large mural symbolizing the promise of future peace and individual freedom, painted by the Norwegian artist, Per Krohg. From the world of yesterday, painted in sombre colours, a man and women (left) raise themselves from the depths of despair. Right, three prisoners are freed. Other panels show equality depicted by the measuring out of grain (left) and (right) the important role of science in the modern world.

USIS

GOLDEN GATE suspension bridge, longest in the world, gracefully spans 4,200 feet across bay at San Francisco, where U.N. was born 1945. City can be glimpsed beyond.



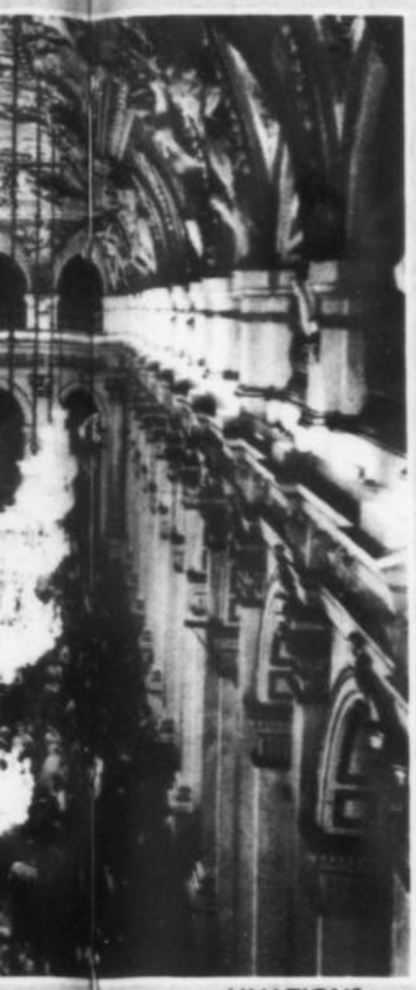
PARIS WELCOMED U.N. when General Assembly Sessions w 1948 and 1951. Here in Hotel de Ville, City of Paris entertas de

SAN FRANCISCO TO NEW YORK VIA PARIS

UNATIONS

PERMANENT H. Q. is built on site in the heart of New York. Secretariat building (right) rises 39 stories. Here work was in progress on General Assembly Building (centre).

FACING EAST RIVER, U.N. Secretariat Building (far right add skyline. In foreground is mid-town Manhattan with Hudson Riv a



UNATIONS

ly Sessions were held there in
enteras delegates and officials.

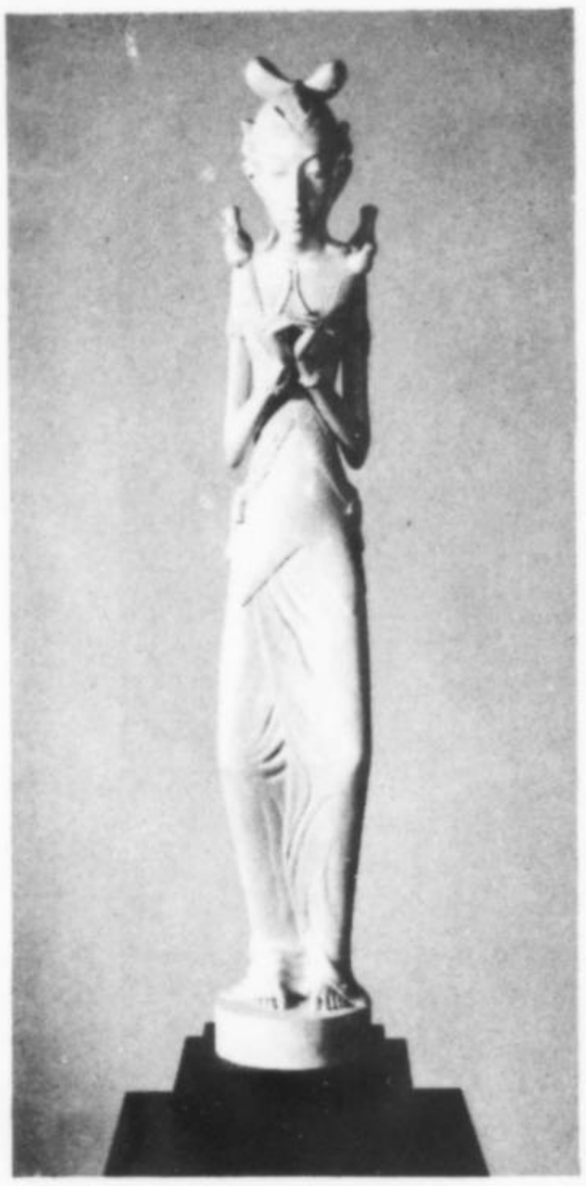
UNATIONS

TEMPORARY HOME for the U.N. General Assembly in 1951 was a prefabricated building specially erected in the gardens of the Palais de Chaillot in Paris. Deserted night scene contrasts sharply with daytime hustle and bustle of the Assembly.

UNATIONS

far right adds a new element to New York's soaring
dson Rir and the State of New Jersey in background.

What was previously an area of run-down tenements and warehouses has been completely transformed, with the new U. N. buildings set against the green of trees, grass and gardens.



ZEUS GREETS VISITORS in lobby of the Secretariat building. Presented by the Greek Government, the U.N. Zeus, below (chief god of Greek mythology) is copy of a statue dating from 464 B.C. now in the Athens Museum. Photos top of page show, left: delicate Balinese wood-carving representing Peace, symbolized by a Balinese pedanda (priest) in solemn meditation, presented to U.N. by the Indonesion Government; right: Mankind and Hope, a statue in teak wood carved by a Danish sculptor, Henrike Starche, in Trusteeship Council chamber. UNATIONS

42nd ST. AND FIRST AVENUE
(Continued from page 20)

From 100 to 200 calls for information are received each day and passed to the information section.

- There are one and a half miles of elevator shaftways in the Headquarters and the elevators travel a total of 250 miles in a working day.
- There are 2,300 typewriters with keyboards for writing in 15 languages: Arabic, Czech, Danish, English, French, Greek, Hebrew, Icelandic, Norwegian, Persian, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Turkish. Many of the typewriters are trilingual, with keyboards which can be used for typing English, French and Spanish.
- U.N. radio programmes are broadcast in 25 languages, some 850 press and radio correspondents are accredited to the U.N., more than half of them from countries other than the U.S.A. Also accredited are 100 photographers, 75 representatives of newsreels and 85 of television.
- The United Nations costs citizens of its Members States very little. The

annual per capita cost to United States nationals, for example, is just a fraction over ten cents.

★

WITH more than 160,000 volumes on its shelves, the United Nations Library provides a reference centre for current world affairs and contains complete data on political, legal, social, economic and geographical conditions in all nations of the world. A pneumatic tube rapidly delivers library materials to the Secretariat Building where a conveyor belt transports them to various floors.

★

IN crowded Manhattan there is a natural tendency to build on every available square foot of land. The U.N. site is a striking exception to this rule. More than three quarters of its area is devoted to lawns, landscaping and gardens. Some 1,500 prize-winning rose bushes, 175 flowering cherry trees and a fine group of hawthorns, sweet gum, pin oaks, sycamore and honey locust trees have helped to transform the site into a garden area.

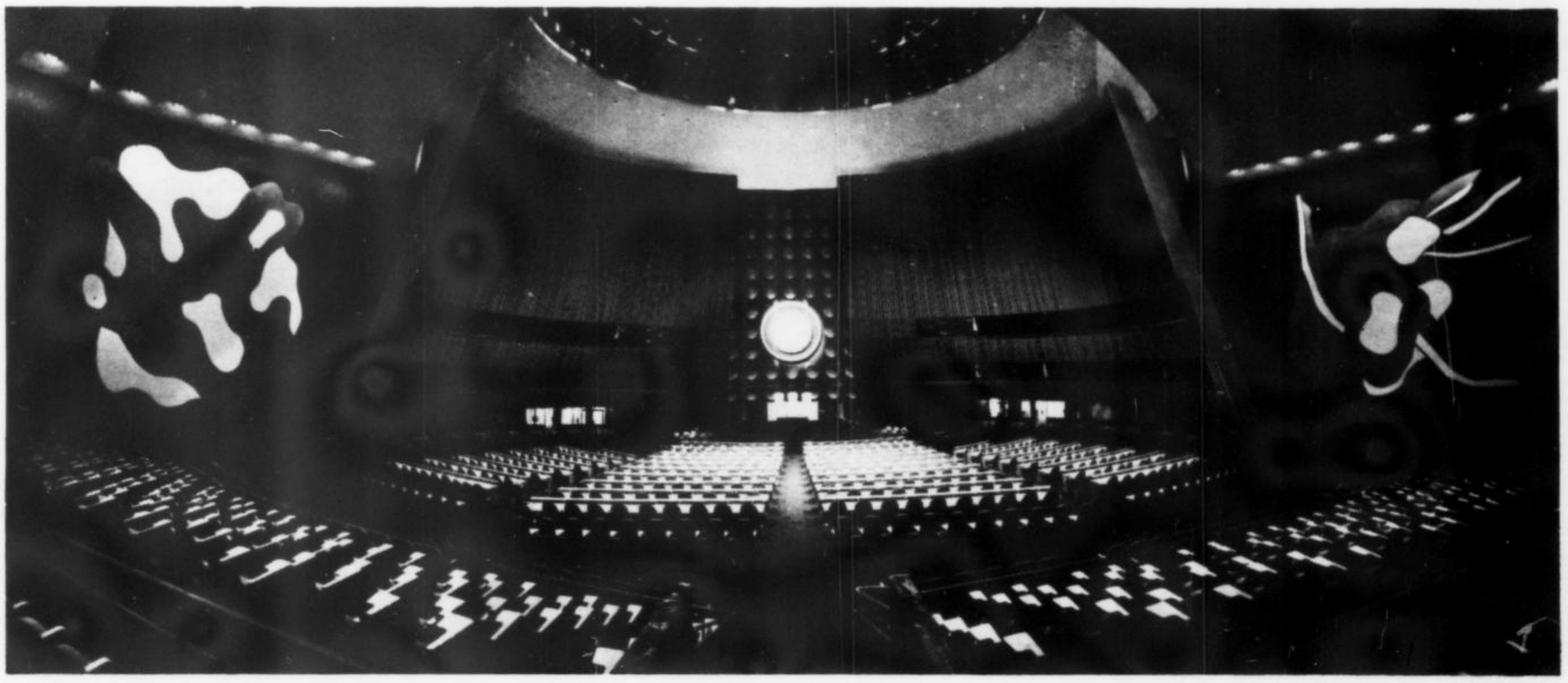
FLOWERS and trees at the U.N. site help to bring back a little of the charm and fragrance that existed on the East River shoreline three centuries ago. Turtle Bay, as it was known in 1640, was fragrant with the first tobacco crop grown by two English settlers, George Holmes and Thomas Hall. They established a plantation and a residence, but it is recorded that Hall, a restless individual, sold out to his partner less than a year later for "1,600 pounds of tobacco payable from the crop which George shall make in 1641". The Turtle Bay Farm region developed into a residential district in the 19th century.

★

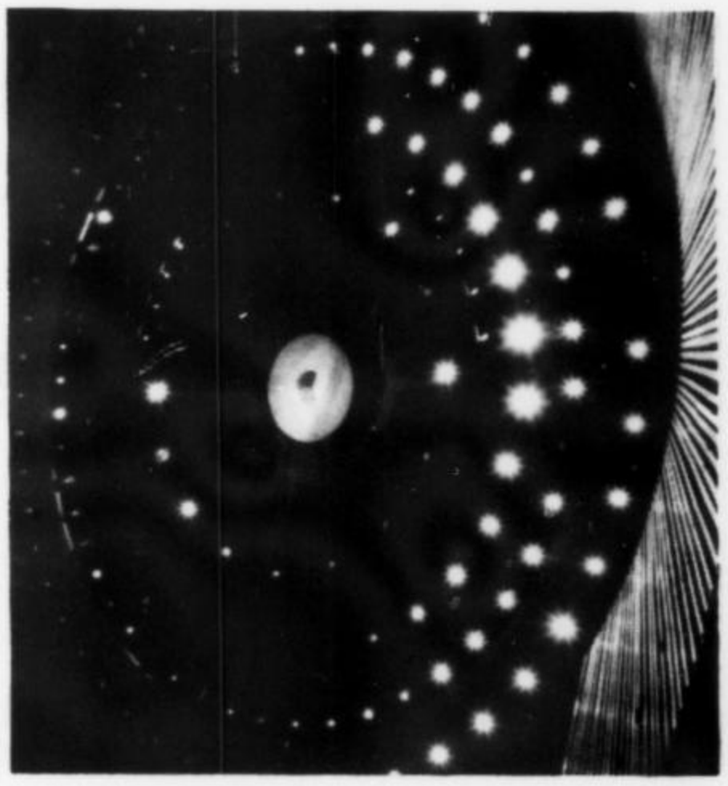
U.N. Member states and many private asociations and groups have helped to beautify the Headquarters. The circular fountain in front of the Secretariat Building, for example, is a gift from the children of the United States and the Territories of Alaska Hawaii, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. A unique feature is the pattern formed on the bottom of the pool by bands of crushed white marble and black stones. The black pebbles were given by Greece and were gathered by the women and children of Rhodes from the island beaches. Other nations have given paintings, tapestries and statues. All the green carpets came from France and all the grey ones from Great Britain. A Japanese pagoda with a bell cast from the bronze coins of 60 countries was given by U.N. Associations in Japan. Its base and surrounding floor are faced with marble from Israel. From Turkey to Australia and from Ecuador to Iran, each of the member nations has made its contribution.

★

No less than 12 auditoriums and conference rooms are equipped with the U.N.'s "simultaneous interpretation" system. By plugging in earphones with which each of their seats is equipped, and turning a dial in front of them, delegates can hear a speaker's words interpreted in any of the U.N.'s five official languages—English. French, Russian Spanish or Chinese. Allowing all delegates to hear at once, the system is a spectacular time saver. The 66 interpreters who come from 17 countries are not only language specialists. To do their job efficiently they must have a good knowledge of the subject they are interpreting.



OVAL, RIB-DOMED General Assembly Hall, is considered to be acoustically perfect. Its vast scale—165 feet long by 115 feet wide with a 75 foot ceiling—creates a dramatic setting for the Assembly. Two abstract murals by the French painter, Fernand Leger accentuate its character. In high dome overhead (right) four rings of starlight reflectors light the hall. The grey-blue wall behind the President's podium is studded with circular golden shields (left) which are to bear the coats of arms of the member nations, with the U.N. emblem in the centre.



U.N. — FROM A TO Z

A frank appraisal

ATOMS:—Since Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945, atomic energy has been linked mostly with the atomic bomb. But the atom also holds promise of boundless benefits for mankind. U. N. has failed to obtain agreement on international control of atomic energy and on problem of prohibiting nuclear weapons; this made it difficult to encourage peaceful use of atomic energy. But in August 1955, U.N. conference on atoms-for-peace convened scientists from 75 countries and "demonstrated without doubt" the feasibility of "generating electricity by atomic energy." Meeting has been hailed as having "succeeded beyond all hopes and expectations."

AVIATION:—Making air travel safe, helping designers plan better planes, getting international agreement on signals and ways of directing air traffic and supervising a chain of 10 weather ships across the North Atlantic—I.C.A.O. (The U. N. International Civil Aviation Organization) is at work on these problems. Now has four air agreements in operation, gives technical assistance on air matters to some 30 countries and co-ordinates regional operating procedures for air and ground crews.

BANK:—Development loans to countries in Latin America, Europe and Asia made by U.N. International Bank number some 450 involving more than 2,200 million dollars. Loans used for expansion of electric power facilities, improving transport systems and import of modern agricultural machinery. Bank still hampered, however, by lack of convertibility of some national currencies.

BERLIN:—So-called Berlin blockade in 1948 led to dangerous international situation. U.N. Security Council unable to take action by reason of use of veto (see Security Council). Agreement on lifting blockade made in May 1949 by U.N. delegates representing France, U.S.S.R., U.K. and U.S.A. Original contact and discussions took place in U.N. Headquarters.

BURMA:—Complaint to U.N. by Burma regarding presence of "Kuomintang" troops led to action by U.N. General Assembly in 1953. By October 1954 nearly 7,000 had been evacuated.

CHARTER:—U.N. Charter signed by representatives of 50 countries in San Francisco on June 26 1945. This guide to action for a better world in direct line of descent from Magna Carta signed at Runnymede on the Thames, 750 years before. Tenth anniversary celebrations of Charter signing held in San Francisco this year. After ten years in force Charter can be revised, but no definite proposals yet made.

CHILDREN:—There are 900 million children in the world and two-thirds, or 600 million, live in poverty, lack food, clothing and shelter. In nine years UNICEF (U.N. Childrens Fund) has brought aid to millions of these children. This year more than 32 million children and nursing mothers in 90 countries and territories are benefiting from UNICEF's mass health and feeding programmes, 15 million children are being vaccinated against TB, 8,700,000 children and mothers are being protected against malaria, 2 million being treated for yaws, bejel or syphilis and 2,700,000 being fed in 36 different countries.

COLLECTIVE SECURITY. — U. N. Charter provides for armed forces of Member States to be put at disposal of Security Council for peace enforcement. Owing to Big Power differences agreements never negotiated. Collective action was taken, however, by Security Council on Korean question (see Korea).

CRIME:—First congress on prevention of crime and treatment of offenders convened by U.N. in Geneva, August 1955. Five hundred delegates at international conference laid down set of standard minimum rules for treatment of prisoners and prepared way for studies on prevention of juvenile delinquency.

DEPENDENT PEOPLES:—Future of Libya, Eritrea and Somaliland—all formerly under Italian rule—resolved by U.N. General Assembly after Big Power failure to reach agreement. Libya now independent, Eritrea federated with Ethiopia and Somaliland soon to be independent. Nineteen million people living in Trust Territories throughout world benefit from right to send petitions to U.N. Trusteeship Council and from visits paid by U.N. Trusteeship missions to territories. Proposals for bettering well-being of these peoples made by missions to Trusteeship Council. Many proposals already adopted by Administering Authorities.

DISARMAMENT:—Disarmament Commission of U.N. at work since 1951 trying to find acceptable formula. Little success so far achieved, but five-power sub-committee after meetings in London and New York has now narrowed differences at current session. Distinct possibility of some measure of success being achieved.

DISEASE:—In 1945 WHO (World Health Organization) was operating 20 different anti-malaria campaigns throughout world. Results achieved show practical eradication of malaria in certain countries. WHO also conducting intensive campaigns against communicable diseases such as TB, venereal infections, polio and yaws with striking results: Greece with 2 million malaria cases in 1942 only had 50,000 in 1949 after WHO campaign; 100,000 people in Haiti formerly suffering from yaws now at work again thanks to WHO-aided anti-yaws measures.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:—U.N.'s Regional Economic Commissions for Europe, Latin America and Asia provide possibilities for countries in the various regions to enlarge trade, break bottlenecks in production and co-operate economically for mutual advantage. Practical results illustrated by field investigation of major Asian rivers to prepare flood control measures; European East-West trade negotiations in

1953 result in many new trade agreements, often for substantially increased amounts of goods; experts meeting in Bogota in 1952 investigated possibilities of developing iron and steel industries in Latin America—seven countries have iron and steel industry or else are in position to establish one. Economic development on world scale planned and co-ordinated through U.N. Economic and Social Council. U.N. technical assistance programme for economic development spans the globe (see under Technical Assistance).

EDUCATION:—Two-thirds of world's population lives in ignorance and in the poverty, ill-health and low standards which ignorance breeds. Unesco has launched world-wide campaign against illiteracy, set up network of associated fundamental education centres. Regional centres now operate in Mexico and Egypt. Technical Training courses sponsored or operated in every continent of world. Unesco also active in raising school leaving age, adult education and has broad programme for international understanding.

F

FOOD:—World population is increasing at about the rate of one per cent a year which means that 80,000 additional persons have to be fed, clothed and housed each day of the year. Increase in the world's food production is urgent. With advice and help of FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of U.N.) Europe's maize yield increased by a value of 25 million dollars in five years. Work now in progress on hybridizing and testing rice seed in Asia—under auspices of International Rice Commission—may yield even more fruitful results. FAO, in common with U.N., now celebrating tenth anniversary, has issued two world food surveys aimed at increasing and improving world food supplies. Expert missions are sent to advise on crop rotation, breeding better crop strains and other problems vital to food needs of particular country. FAO helps underdeveloped countries with expert advice through U.N. technical assistance programme. By end 1953, 165 projects had been completed, more than 300 experts from 54 countries were at work in 55 others.

G

GENERAL ASSEMBLY:—The U.N. Assembly first met in London in 1945. Made up of all member states of the world organization. Significant decisions taken by Assembly include: partition of Palestine in November 1947; Universal Declaration of Human Rights in December 1948; first resolution on technical assistance for economic development taken adopted in 1948 ; international co-operation in developing peaceful uses of atomic energy unanimously adopted in 1954.

GREECE:—Greek complaint of aid and assistance given to Greek guerrillas by neighbouring countries to the north caused explosive situation in Balkans. U.N. General Assembly despatched special committee to investigate frontier incidents and aid in mediation. Presence of U.N. committee and observers in frontier areas led to lessening of tension. In 1954 Greece requested recall of remaining observer group in view of improved situation on northern borders.

H

HEALTH:—In 1954, after sixth year of work, WHO (World Health Organization) had participated in 329 major health projects involving 75 different countries. Two-thirds of world's population still live in "under-developed" areas where life expectation is only 30 years against 63 years in more "developed" countries. Positive results of WHO work show many maternal and child welfare centres operating in countries where before none existed; assistance in 1954 to 17 nursing schools; direct aid projects for helping physically-handicapped adults and children in Eastern Europe and Asia; between 1947 and 1954 award of 4,500 fellowships for health training work.

HUMAN RIGHTS:—Need for international guarantee for individual human rights recognized in Universal Declaration adopted by U.N. General Assembly in 1948. U.N. Assembly called on all member states to "cause it to be disseminated, displayed, read and expounded principally in schools and other educational institutions, without distinction based on the political status of countries and territories." Universal application has not yet come about. Two human rights covenants laid out in treaty form, i.e. binding on Governments, drafted by U.N. Human Rights Commission. Little progress has been made in their adoption.

I

INDIA:—(See under Kashmir).

INDONESIA:—Hostilities between Dutch and Indonesion forces brought to U.N. Security Council in 1947. Council set up committee of good offices. Under U.N. committee auspices truce agreement was signed in 1948. Renewed hostilities broke out at the end of 1948. Council then recommended establishment of independent state of Indonesia. Discussions between Dutch and Indonesians commenced under U.N. committee auspices in 1949. Later in year full agreement was reached at round table conference. In September 1950 Indonesia became member of U.N.

INFORMATION:—Increase in scope and quality of press, radio and film services throughout the world; international agreements facilitating exchange of books, films and scientific data, supply of material for press, radio and film designed to promote international understanding are among freedom of information problems tackled by Unesco (U.N. Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization) in course of past eight years. Positive results show adherence of 12 countries to agreement on exchange of visual and auditory materials, and 20 countries to the agreement on the importation of educational, scientific and cultural materials.

IRAN:—In 1946 Iran complained to U.N. Security Council of U.S.S.R. interference in her internal affairs. Council took up question and asked for information on progress of negotiations between two parties. Iran later reported withdrawal of Soviet forces.

INTERNATIONAL LAW:—U.N. Commission on International Law at work on tricky problems such as territorial limits and continental shelf. Importance of decisions on these matters can effect whaling, salvage and national sovereignty over undersea lands.

ITALIAN COLONIES, Libya, Eritrea and Somaliland (see under dependent peoples).

J

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY:—(see under Crime).

JUSTICE:—U.N.'s International Court of Justice sits at The Hague. Court decisions have been taken on the sinking of a British warship in the Corfu Channel, rights of asylum; disputed fish-

(Cont'd on next page)

ing rights off the Norwegian coast; Iran's oil and the sovereignty of a small group of islands in the Channel between England and France. Court is available for consultation by all U.N. members states, and all other countries subject to certain provisions.

KASHMIR:—Indian complaint brought to U.N. Security Council in 1948 charged that hostile tribes from, outside the State were receiving aid from Pakistan. Council set up a commission which was successful in persuading India and Pakistan to order a cease fire. Kashmir situation remained disturbed and U.N. Truce Observation mission with military observers still remains in Kashmir to prevent friction between two sides and supervise cease fire agreement.

U.N. was not successful in arranging for Kashmir plebiscite. No agreement has yet been reached between India and Pakistan on terms under which plebiscite should be held.

KOREA:—Here, for first time in history, collective military action recommended by an international organization was successful in hurling back an aggressor and, eventually, bringing peace to a war-stricken country. Invasion of South Korea by military forces from North Korea on June 25 1950 was brought to U.N. Security Council. Collective action was recommended with immediate goal of throwing back aggressors and ultimately to bring the aggression to an end and to restore peace and security in area. Eventually armed forces of 16 U.N. member states, and of Republic of Korea, fighting under U.N. flag successful in achieving their aim. Toll in lives and money heavy, particularly for major participating nation U.S.A.

Long range U.N. purpose in Korea remains: political unification and independence of country achieved through peaceful means. Meanwhile U.N. still has two agencies operating in Korea. Constructive rehabilitation work done by U.N. Korean Reconstruction Agency includes: installation of 55,400 spindles in Korean cotton mills by end 1954; 4 million dollars worth of industrial machinery and materials have reached Korea to date: three heavy-duty briquetting presses supplied to alleviate fuel shortage; construction materials procured for rebuilding Samchok cement plant—only one in country. In health field UNKRA provides Republic with fully-equipped and staffed training centre for Korean doctors and nurses at Taegu—famous place-name during the fighting in Korea, and has also established rehabilitation centre for physically-handicapped at Tongnae.

LABOUR:—ILO (International Labour Organization), through conferences consisting of government representatives, employers and workers, fights for better labour conditions. Positive action already taken by ILO during its 36 years history on all aspects of labour relations; particularly significant results in regard holidays with pay, eight hour day, protection of wages and freedom of association. Good living conditions on board ship now enjoyed by seamen throughout world directly stems from convention adopted by ILO conference in 1946. This laid down specific measures to improve standards of accommodation for merchant seamen.

LIBYA:—(see under dependent peoples).

METEOROLOGY:—At set times during day and night weathermen throughout the world take met recordings and spark vast international chain reaction involving round-the clock broadcasting, complex telex and teleprinter systems, codes, charts and all the technical apparatus making up a modern met service. World co-operation on met information fostered and sponsored by WMO (World Meteorological Organization of U.N.). Technical committees of WMO lay down standards for weather recording instruments, and standardized codes and charts. Result: weathermen all send in reports in agreed international form. WMO also issuing international cloud atlas containing photos of all types of clouds observed from poles to tropics.

MIGRATION:—Large movements of populations came about by reason of Second World War. Displaced and refugees numbered millions. General Assembly of U.N. brought into existence IRO (International Refugee Organization) in 1946. Agency in four years life resettled more than one million displaced persons and refugees, repatriated some 73,000 to their homelands, and gave other forms of assistance to more than 1,600,000. However, U.N. not successful in liquidating refugee question with result that further refugee bureau had to be established following dissolution of IRO (see under refugees).

MINORITIES:—U.N. sub-commission at work on problems related to protection and discrimination against minorities. Recommendations made on fundamental freedoms in line with U.N. Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

NARCOTICS:—International control to limit official import, export and manufacture of narcotic drugs for medical and scientific uses supervised by U.N. body. U.N. Narcotics Drugs commission has also worked out treaty to control distribution and production of new synthetic drugs. Controls also introduced on cultivation of opium. U.N. body keeps vigilant watch on course of illicit traffic in drugs, and on national measures to curb it. Narcotic drugs are, nevertheless, indispensable to modern medecine, and used in this way bring great benefit to mankind.

PAKISTAN:—(see under Kashmir).

PALESTINE:—State of Israel created by resolution of U.N. General Assembly adopted in November 1947. Tension between Arab countries and new State led to U.N. action, and Mediator was appointed by Security Council. First U.N. mediator—Count Folke Bernadotte of Sweden—assassinated. Work by successor resulted in general armistice agreement between Israel and Arab States signed during 1949. Despite U.N. work in Palestine tension has not lessened and strained relations still hold between two sides. At present U.N. has Truce Observation Commission on spot with large staff of military observers, but U.N. influence has not avoided border clashes and bomb outrages leading to loss of life on both sides of dangerous frontier between Israel and Egypt. Conciliation Commission set up by U.N. General Assembly in 1948 has achieved no positive results so far.

POSTAL SERVICES:—Mail can travel between countries, across oceans and pass national frontiers by reason of little-known document called Universal Postal Convention. Regu-

lations of this Convention carried out by U.N. Universal Postal Union. U.P.U. is responsible for settling postal accounts between member countries—practically speaking all countries in the world—and co-ordinating postal information for international publication. Next world postal congress of 94 member countries will be held in Ottawa, 1957.

PRISONS:—(see under crime).

PRISONERS-OF-WAR:—U.N. General Assembly in 1950 and in 1953 appealed to all Governments holding second world war prisoners to give them unrestricted opportunity of repatriation. Special U.N. body sought full information concerning prisoners still detained, and rendered assistance in facilitating repatriation. Positive results achieved by this body showed that by September 1954 number of repatriations exceeded 40,000.

REFUGEES:—Following dissolution of IRO (see under Migration) U. N. General Assembly appointed a U. N. High Commissioner for Refugees. Enormous task facing this new office was to provide international protection for some two million refugees. High Commissioner successful in finding solutions of number of refugee problems: noteworthy instance plight of European refugees still remaining in Shanghai following closure of IRO. In 1953 3,321 re-settled, and in 1954 re-settlement rate running at 500 a quarter. Work accomplished in co-operation with Inter-Governmental Committee for European Migration, a non-U.N. body although co-operating actively with U.N. agencies on refugee and migration problems.

Particular aspect of refugee problem caused by Palestine conflict in 1948, resulting in exile for nearly one million Palestinian Arabs. UNRWA (U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees), body set up by U. N. General Assembly now provides rations, health care, education, welfare and supplementary services for 900,000 Arab refugees. Agency, in co-operation with local governments, has initiated number of works projects providing refugee employment. U.N. still not successful in solving Palestine refugee problem but progress being made.

ROAD SIGNS:—Standard road signs and signals on European roads, and network of arteries for international road traffic now being put into operation following work carried out by technical committee of U.N. Economic Commission for Europe. Roads on this international network already being built or reconstructed to conform to agreed standards for speed and safety.

SECURITY COUNCIL:—U. N. body primarily responsible for maintainance of international peace and security. Success of Council's work largely negatived by Big Power disagreement. "Abuse" of so-called veto power—substantive matters to be decided by affirmative vote of seven members, including concurring votes of permanent members—resulted in lack of definite action on number of important questions.

SCIENCE:—International scientific co-operation (see under Atoms).

SYRIA AND LEBANON:—Complaint brought to Security Council early in 1946 by Governments of Syria and Lebanon protesting against continued presence of British and French troops on their territories. Despite use of veto precluding adoption of resolution Britain and France took action on majority view and all forces were withdrawn, to satisfaction of Syria and Lebanon, later same year.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:—World-wide plan for giving expert technical assistance to aid economic development in under-developed countries. Expanded programme, in which U.N. and Specialised Agencies act together, adopted by U.N. General Assembly in 1949. Results of programme show unparalleled exchange of knowledge and skills: in 1954 1,584 experts from 63 different countries were at work in practically all less developed areas in the world. New type of world workshop has provided help on development of water resources, land reclamation, irrigation, consumer problems to countries such as Bolivia, Brazil, Ecuador, Gold Coast, Greece, Iran, Iraq, Syria, Tanganyika, Yugoslavia. Malaria control measures have been integrated in national health services of Afghanistan, Ceylon, India and Thailand as a result of technical assistance and advice. FAO has advised India and Ceylon on fishing boat mechanization. Experts supplied by WMO are establishing up-to-date meteorological services in Nicaragua, Jordan, the Yemen and Afghanistan. Unesco has sent social scientists to Haiti and Ceylon, set up fundamental education centres in Mexico for the Latin American countries and in Egypt for the Arab States. To date more than 4,500 experts from 70 different nationalities have been provided. More than 100 countries have received technical aid in one form or other. U.N. technical assistance can be written down as a successful cooperative process still in active form.

TRADE AND TARIFFS:—Havana Charter on International Trade, including establishment of an International Trade Organization indefinitely postponed. But the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), a treaty now put into operation on a provisional basis by more than 35 countries, embodies much of the commercial policy section of the Havana Charter. Number of post-war tariff conferences have resulted in the protection of 58,000 tariff rates, covering large part of world's trade. Countries adhering to GATT share more than 80% of world trade.

TRUST TERRITORIES:—(see under Dependent Peoples).

TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL:—U. N. body responsible for examination of reports submitted by Administering Powers on Trust Territories. Council also accepts petitions from inhabitants of Trust Territories and examines them in consultation with Administering Authority. Council bases its actions on International Trusteeship System which lays down principles for the advancement of dependent peoples.

U.N. MEMBERSHIP:—World organization now has 60 members, but due to use of veto power in Security Council membership is still not universal. Fourteen applications for membership have been vetoed to date in Council. Other applications have been rejected by lack of sufficient majority. Question of Chinese representation has plagued U.N. for past few years. Decision on this difficult question has been regularly postponed.

WOMEN:—U.N. body on Status of Women at work for betterment of position of women in world of today. Important decisions taken by Commission on questions such as: equality of opportunity, voting rights, and equal pay.

THE CHANCE OF A SQUARE MEAL

FAO : `food production up 30 %'

UNATIONS

EAR OF WHEAT with the motto *fiat panis* (let there be bread) is the symbol of the FAO (the Food and Agriculture organization of the United Nations) and underlines its role in helping to raise living standards, improve nutrition and increase efficiency of farming, forestry and fisheries. From Africa, with its primitive form of harvesting, above, to Sweden, with its highly organized timber industry, right, FAO is active with advice and aid. Photo, right, is taken from Swedish film, "Green Gold." Timber resources are indeed green gold. FAO has reported that world's forests now measure 96 milliard cubic metres.

IN 1946, despite wartime casualties, the number of people to be fed in the world had risen 10% but world food production had declined by some 5%. In the early post-war years many experts predicted mass starvation. This world food problem of more to eat for more people faced the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations when it came into existence ten years ago, in October 1945. Now, although the world population has risen as much as 25%, FAO is able to report in its "State of Food and Agriculture 1955—Review of a Decade" that the increased rate of food production now exceeds the upsurge in population figures.

Because of the technical revolution which has taken place in agriculture in the past ten years there has been a dramatic transformation from the devastation and threat of famine in the immediate post-war years to a situation where agricultural surpluses in some countries are once again causing anxiety. The FAO report has some astonishing things to tell about the technical revolution which has taken place. World use of commercial fertilizers has almost doubled since 1939; the number of farm tractors has tripled; development of water resources in under-developed countries has increased enormously.

In India, for example, around 5 million hectares of land have been brought under irrigation in the space of four years, and in China the rate of development is about equal. Plant breeding and seed improvement have led to increased crop yields and the scientific use of newer and more potent pesticides have resulted in the saving of millions of hectares of grain and root crops.

Striking news of the results achieved by the increasing application of scientific methods to agriculture are underlined in the FAO ten-year review. In round figures the world is now producing 30% more wheat, meat and fats than it did before the second world war. Rice, milk and cotton production has gone up by about 20%, and sugar by as much as 51%. However, despite these immense increases, and despite the fact that there is now 2% more food available per capita than before the war and that world food production has risen by 30% in ten years, there are still today millions of people who do not get a square meal.

Weaknesses today are not so much on the side of production, but rather in distribution and marketing. While some countries are now piling up surplus stocks of wheat, sugar and cotton, people in countries on the other side of the world lack the self-same things. FAO points out that the difficulties lying in the path of equitable world distribution are many, but four are of paramount importance: failure of consumption to keep pace with production with the consequent emergence of surplus commodity stocks; non-adjustment of agricultural production to shifting trends of demand; stagnation of world trade in agricultural products combined with obstacles hindering their free movement between countries, and the low level of farm incomes in most countries.

Primarily for these reasons the need for higher levels of production and consumption in under-developed countries is almost as great as ever. But

UNATIONS

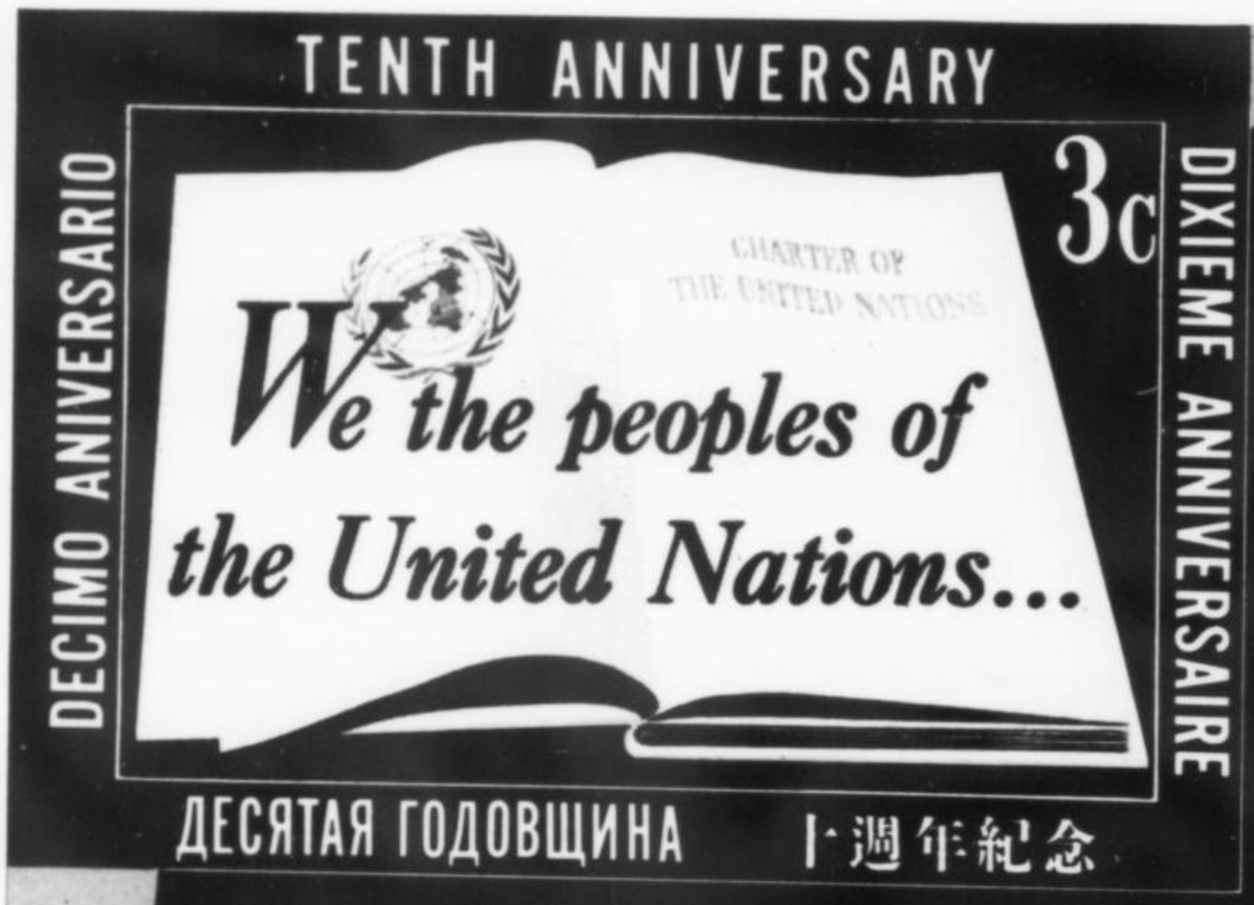
FAO stresses that further increases in production can be justified only to the extent that they can be matched by increases in consumption. Unless purchasing power is present food sales will drop. In fact high post-war retail food prices have tended to restrict food consumption levels.

Although FAO has, in its anniversary report, emphasized the world food situation, much important news in the fields of forestry and fisheries is also given. Annual world fish production now exceeds 27 million tons, 20% up on the pre-war output. Most of the expansion is accounted for by increased exploitation of established fisheries in Europe, North America, Japan and the U.S.S.R. But a completely new post-war development is the emergence of South Africa, Peru, Angola and Chile as significant fish producers and exporters. Technological developments such as the use of echo sounding equipment for locating schools of fish, factory ships capable of processing at sea, and larger and faster ships with ranges of over 2,000 miles have all aided in boosting fish production figures.

FAO has some interesting things to say about the utilization of forest resources in the past ten years. It is noteworthy that the world production figure of roundwoods (logs, pulpwood and pitprops) has gone up by about 15%, the greatest increase occurring in the U.S.S.R. One of the most important aspects of the timber industry —wood pulp production—rose by about 85% between 1946 and 1954, and FAO forecasts that this year will see new advances over previous record levels. In fact, the report asserts "the world now possesses sufficient fibrous resources and the necessary techniques to sustain any conceivable future rise in the world's pulp and paper needs". Backing up this definite statement FAO points to some astonishing wood pulp production increases: North America with 50% over the 1946 figure; U.S.S.R. double the pre-war figure; Japan with a sevenfold increase between 1946 and 1954. Significantly, however, FAO remarks that Europe's largest paper producer, the U.K., depends almost entirely on imports of wood pulp.

Alongside roundwood and pulp production there is also news of an increase in production of wood for industrial purposes. FAO stresses that since the war considerable progress has been made in all fields of forest exploitation, and in a more rational utilization of forest resources. This, FAO points out, has resulted in a lesser proportion of the world's forest crop being burnt as fuel, and a greater proportion being used industrially.

In its ten-year survey FAO has shown that much progress has been made in giving more people more to eat. A partial success and solution of the problem originally facing FAO in 1945 has been achieved—the need for food production to rise faster than the growth in population. But, as FAO admits, the parallel problem of achieving an equitable distribution of world food supplies has not yet been solved. Although FAO's first ten years have seen more rapid and widespread advances in the technical methods of agriculture, forests, and fisheries than in any previous decade, much urgent work still remains to be done before the world's peoples are fully fed.


TENTH ANNIVERSARY
DECIMO ANIVERSARIO
DIXIEME ANNIVERSAIRE
3c
CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS
We the peoples of the United Nations...
ДЕСЯТАЯ ГОДОВЩИНА
十週年紀念

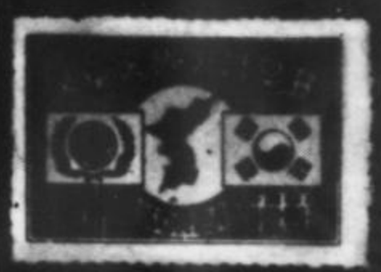
FRANCE
18f FRANCE POSTES
UNESCO PARIS 1946
POSTE ITALIANE
UNESCO

REPUBLICA DE HONDURAS C.A.

TURKIYE CUMHURIYETI POSTALARI
ONU
INDIA
LIBERIA
JUGOSLAVIJA

U. N. STAMPS FROM MANY LANDS

Over forty countries have issued special commemorative stamps in honour of the U.N. or its Agencies. On these pages a selection of some of these are published. Upper left-hand corner shows the latest stamp issued by U.N. itself to commemorate 10th anniversary of its creation.



이기념우표는 한국동란에참전한 우방제국에 감사의뜻을 표하기 위하여 조제하였음

대 한 민 국 체 신 부

These stamps were issued in appreciation of the friendly nations participating in the korean war.

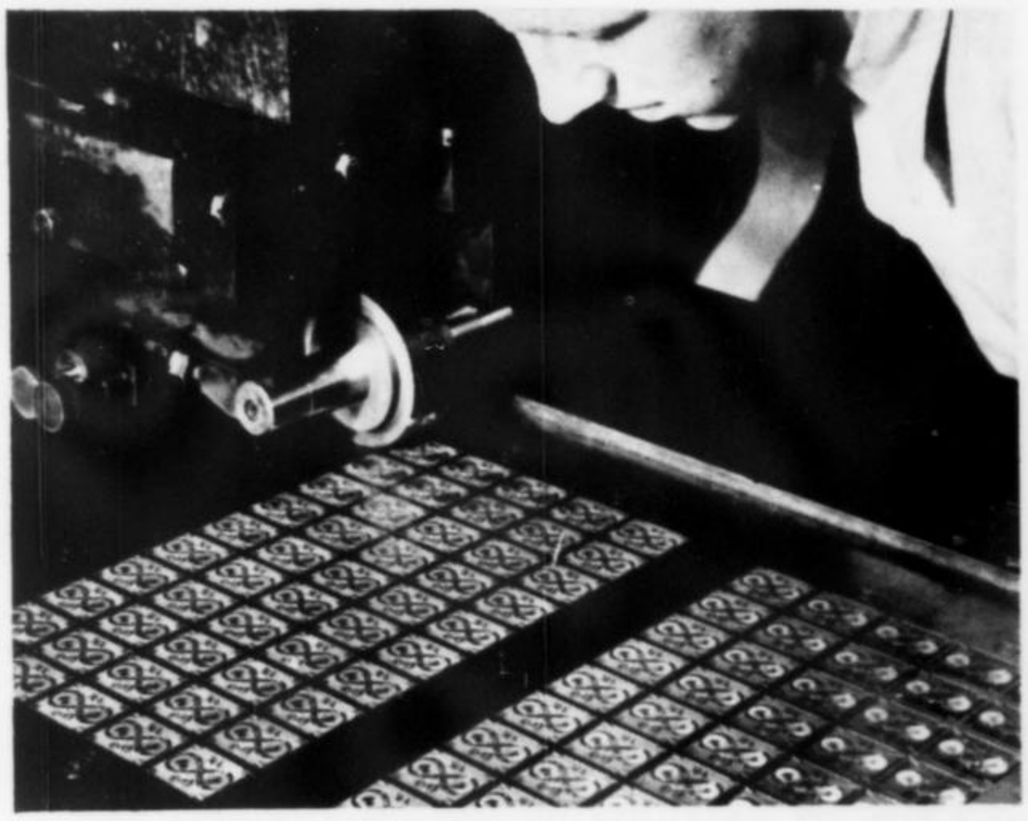
Ministry of Communications
Republic of Korea

We the peoples of the United Nations...

(Continued)

POSTMARKED 'UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK'

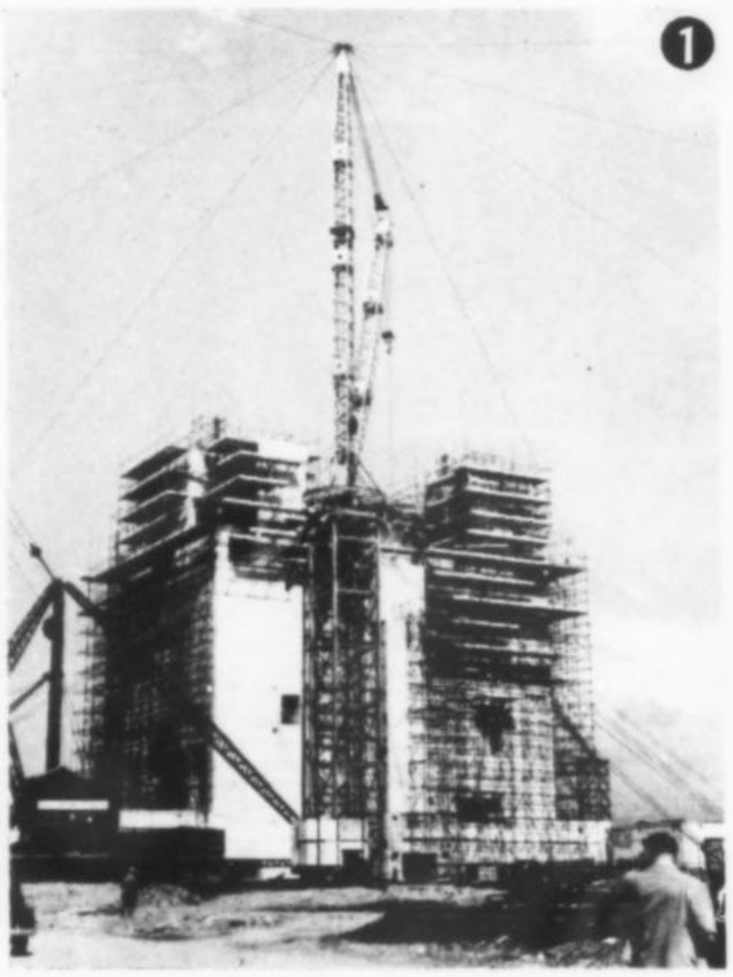
IN 1951, stamps for world-wide circulation were produced for the first time by an organization of nations whose aims and ideas for world peace and security are expressed in the Charter of the United Nations. Prior to this, the right to issue stamps had been restricted to governments, though it is true that some international organizations had arranged with their host governments to use national stamps on which they had been identified in the design or with a surcharge. The stamps issued on United Nations Day, 1951 by the newly set up United Nations Postal Administration sought to stress the international personality of the U.N. and to serve as miniature posters displaying its aims and activities on millions of letters and packets sent from headquarters and circulating around the world. Since then, millions of stamp collectors of all ages and nationalities have added these stamps to their collection and have become familiar with the work of the U.N. and its Specialized Agencies. The stamps have become an important source of revenue to the U.N.—over $1,300,000 gross in just under three years. Their educational value has been acknowledged and a group known as United Nations Stamps Clubs exists which publishes its own bulletin, "The Globe Trotter". Nowadays when general stamp collecting has become too costly a hobby, collectors have to specialize on a few countries or perhaps a single continent. Many have begun to collect stamps, envelopes and postal cancellations linked with the U.N. such as the special commemorative stamps issued by different countries in honour of the Organization and its Specialized Agencies. By the end of 1952 more than 40 countries had issued such stamps.



THE ATOMIC FUTURE TODAY

NEW POWER ERA FOR GREAT BRITAIN

In the next ten years Great Britain expects to have twelve nuclear power stations in operation. These will produce electricity equal to that obtained from five to six million tons of coal a year. Below first experimental station goes up at Calder Hall, Cumberland. (1) One of twin concrete buildings to house uranium piles. (2) Workmen prepare one of 80 ft. high steam producing boilers. Each



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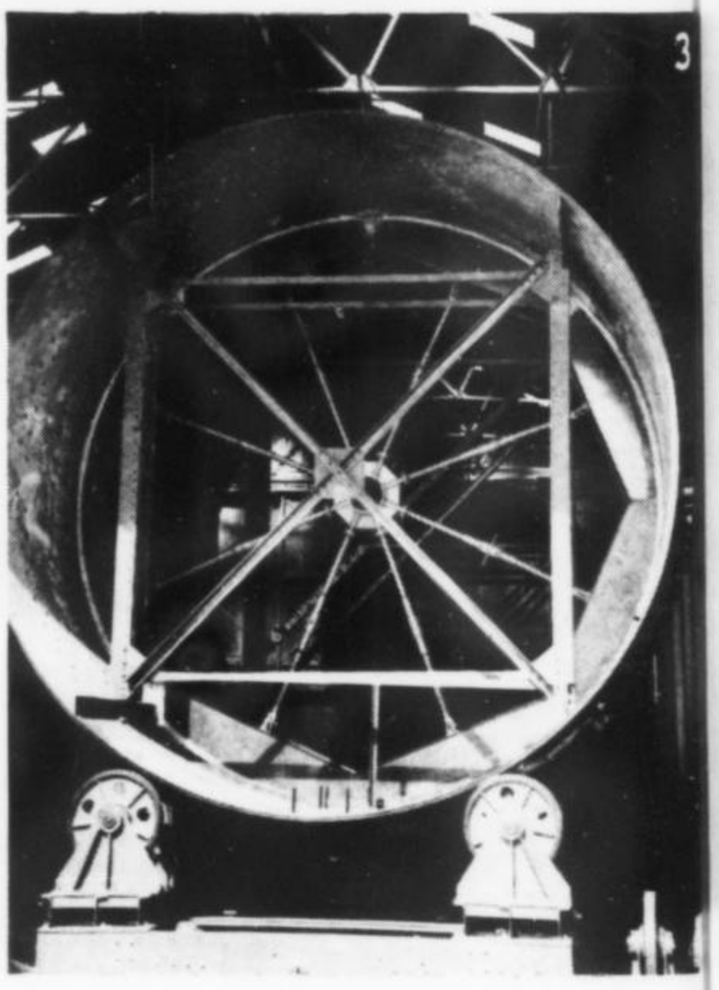


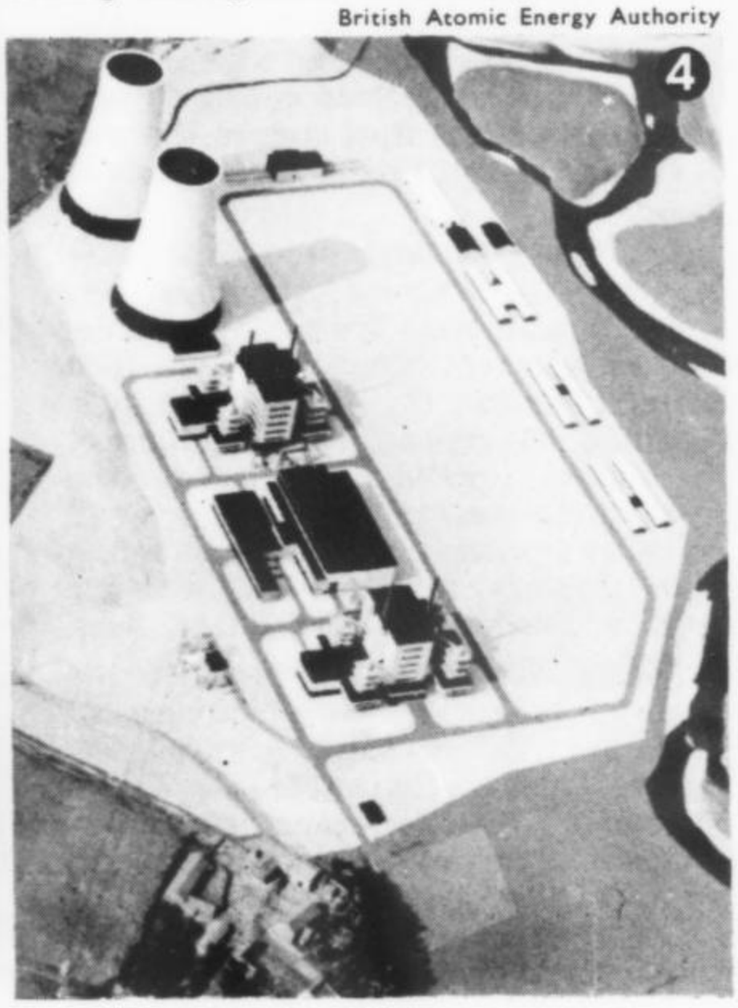
3

FIRST U. S. CITY LIT BY ATOMS. For more than one hour in July 1955 the small town of Arco, Idaho, became the first U. S. community to be lit and powered exclusively by atomic power Electricity came from a reactor at the U. S. National Reactor Testing Station, 20 miles away. As power station engineer throws switch atom-made electricity lights Arco's streets.

USIS

of the two piles will have four boilers. (3) Inside view of boiler. (4) Model of Calder Hall station. Two reactors are placed at each side of central building. Cooling towers are seen top, left.

British Atomic Energy Authority



Atoms for peace

by Gerald Wendt

IT is usually said that the atomic age began with the explosion at Hiroshima on August 6, 1945. Perhaps the major achievement of the United Nations Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy is that this date has lost its importance and that the opening of the Conference ten years later, on August 8, 1955, was the real birthday of the atomic age. On that day, and in the two weeks of discussions that followed, the atomic sciences emerged from wartime secrecy to be revealed as a great new benefit to humanity.

Above all, the Conference at Geneva confirmed the words of President Eisenhower of the United States to the General Assembly of the United Nations on December 8, 1953: "If the fearful trend of atomic military build-up can be reversed, this greatest of destructive forces can be developed into a great boon for the benefit of all mankind... Peaceful power from atomic energy is no dream of the future. That capability, already proved, is here, today."

So it is. In four countries atomic furnaces, or "reactors", are already at work. At Geneva, the Soviet Union showed photographs, detailed drawings and a model of its atomic power plant at Obrinskoye, about 60 miles southwest of Moscow which has been generating 5,000 kilowatts of electricity for neighbouring industry since June 27, 1954. The United States put on public display an actual small reactor with a steady production of 10 kilowatts of power that was increased to 100 kilowatts occasionally to show the eerie blue glow of the pool of clear water when the rays from the submerged uranium core penetrate through it. Canada and the United Kingdom also showed models, photographs and operating details of reactors that are now in use and of large reactors that will be producing power for industry in a year or two. Atomic power on a true commercial scale will be a reality in 1956 when the British power station at Calder Hall in Cumberland goes into operation to produce 50,000 kilowatts of electricity. By 1965 the United Kingdom expects to have a dozen in operation and producing electricity, and there will be at least half a dozen more in Western Europe by then.

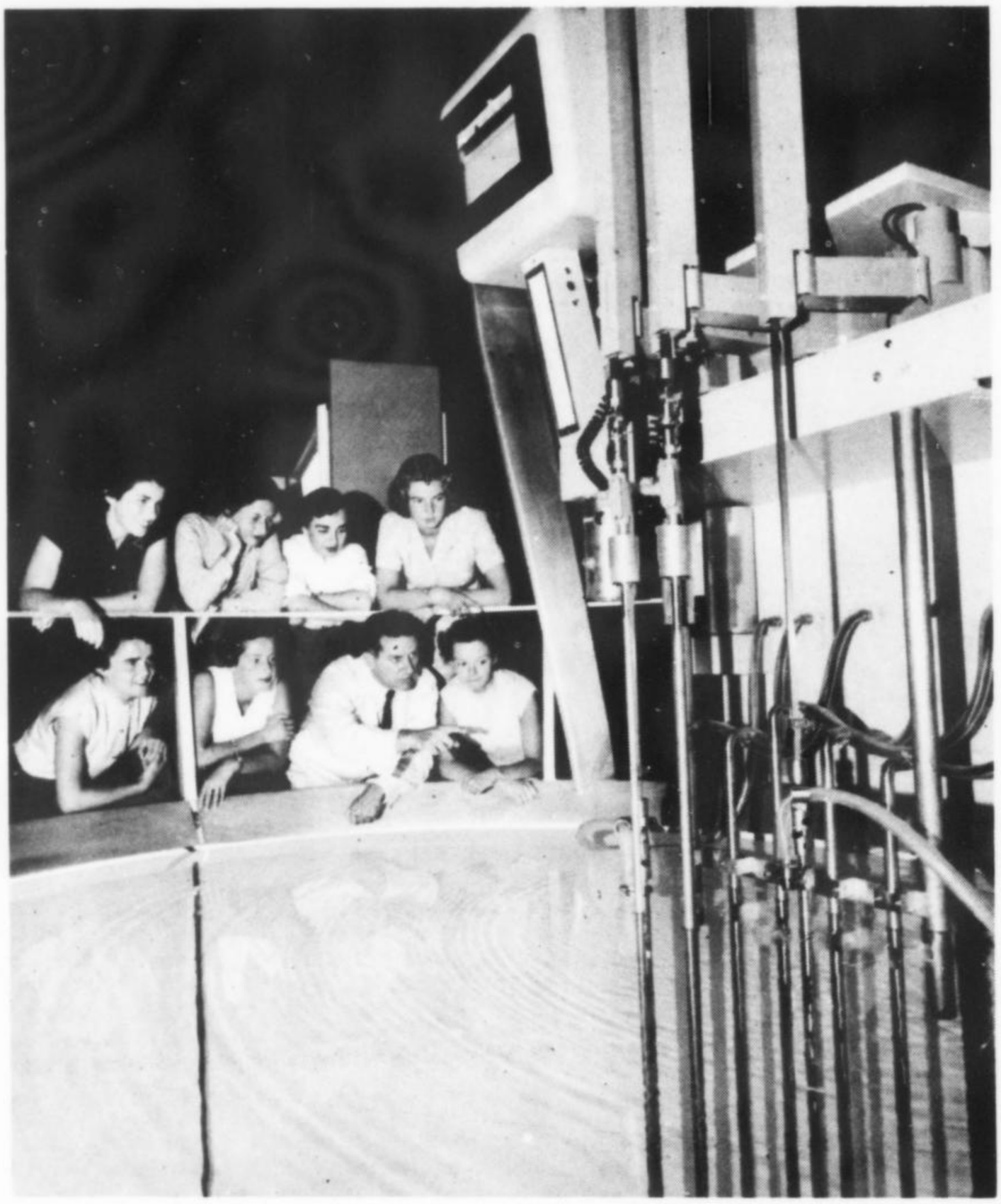
The prospects for commercial atomic power are the brightest in Europe because easily mined coal is becoming exhausted and coal prices are already so high that power from uranium will probably be cheaper than that from coal. Much the same is true for water power. The easily accessible sites for power dams have already been used and future dams will be higher in the mountains, more remote from the industrial cities, and therefore more expensive. After some ten years of experience with atomic power plants, it is probable that an increasing number of new power stations will be atomic.

The United States has more than a score of reactors but they are all experimental, built for testing new designs, new methods of generating power and new materials of construction. Some radical new designs were reported at Geneva, including one in which the cooling water is allowed to boil and form steam which automatically serves to control the speed of the atomic reaction and thus has built-in safety. There is also a reactor which does not use bars of metallic uranium as fuel but instead has uranium in solution. Another form is the "swimming pool" type where a large pool of water moderates the neutron flow and at the same time serves as coolant. The USA is not in a hurry to select a type for large-scale power production because, in competition with cheap local coal, it is not likely that electricity from the atom can be any cheaper. Several large power stations are nevertheless now being built or planned.

There were, however, scientists from 73 nations at Geneva, most of them not yet actively engaged in atomic power researches. And the non-industrialized countries, who stand to gain most from the new source of power, were the most interested in the facts revealed in the Conference. In general the underdeveloped countries are poor in coal and other conventional fuels so that atomic fuels offer an exciting new hope of power for the needed industries. If, as in India, coal is available, it is remote from the centres of population and is either expensive to transport or, in some cases, cannot be transported in millions of tons because the railway system is inadequate. Since one ton of uranium can give as much power as a million tons of coal, but is easily transported, it avoids this obstacle and can create industries and wealth that will later justify the expansion of railroad construction.

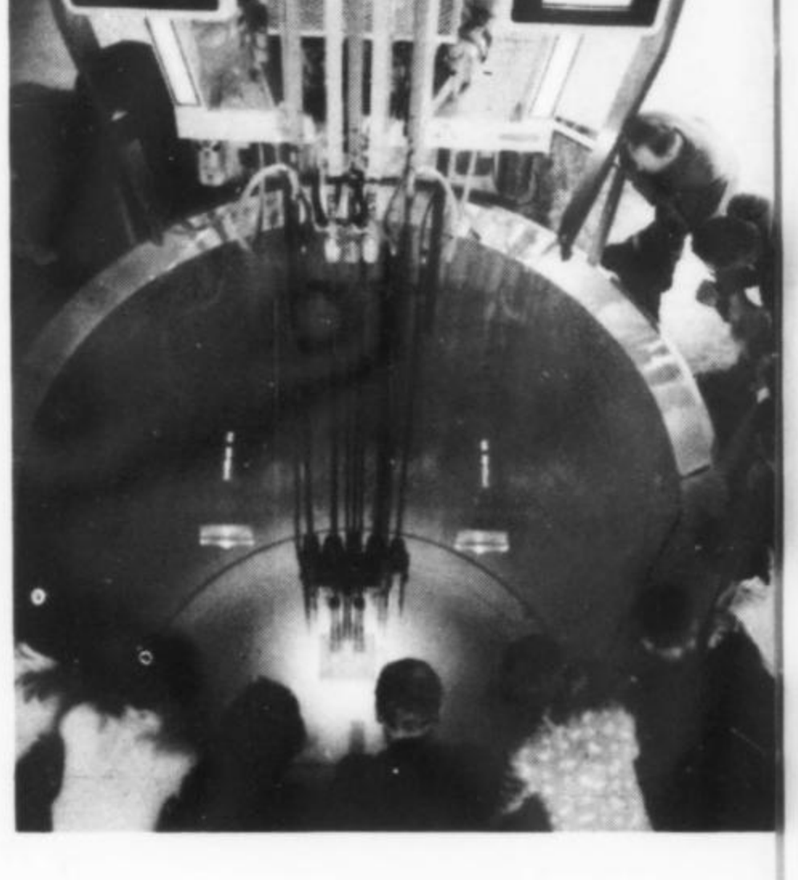
Industry springs up with nuclear power

NEVERTHELESS atomic power will be slow to develop in such countries because it is not possible to build a profitable small atomic reactor. Building and operating a large one requires highly trained personnel, specialized machinery, and at least a moderate industrial environment to use the power. The first problem of the underdeveloped countries in facing the atomic age is therefore the establishment of specialized training schools for atomic scientists and engineers and of vocational training schools for the skilled workmen that will be needed. It is true that atomic power makes industry possible where it was not possible before. But this means not merely entering the atomic age but also entering the electrical age, the age of steam and the age of industry and modern commerce. For this reason investment in scientific, technical and electrical engineering will need to *(Cont'd on next page)*



" SWIMMING POOL " WITH A BLUE GLOW

A leading attraction of the atomic exhibition of the Geneva Atoms for Peace Conference was a working reactor from the U.S.A. Standing around the pool of crystal clear water, faintly blue and 21 feet deep, visitors could look down with perfect safety to see the eerie blue glow of the submerged uranium core at the bottom. The shield formed by the water protected them from harmful radiations. Rods which run down into water are the control rods which start or stop the chain reaction as required.



THE ATOMIC FUTURE TODAY

(Continued)

precede, or at least to accompany investment in atomic reactors.

The second major subject at the Geneva conference, aside from the promise of atomic power, was the use in medicine, agriculture and industry of the radioactive materials that are produced as by-products in the reactors and are known as isotopes. There are many types and they have many uses. Some, with powerful penetrating rays, are used in hospitals for the treatment of cancer and other diseases, and in industry to take the place of cumbersome and expensive x-ray machines at a small fraction of the cost. Others, with faint but lasting radiations, are at work in research laboratories of at least 46 countries and have become an indispensable tool for research studies in chemistry, medicine, biology and agriculture.

An official of the United States Atomic Energy Commission estimated that American industry alone is already saving 100 million dollars a year by the use of improved processes and machinery that were developed from new information supplied by the isotopes. He estimated that in ten years the saving would amount to 1,000 million dollars. Even this figure includes only savings to the producers and does not take into account the savings to consumers in reduced prices and improved quality of many products. The atomic reactors produce isotopes in large quantities so that they are already available for shipment all over the world. Thus researches of this type can be carried on anywhere long before an atomic reactor is operating locally.

Isotopes reveal the mysteries of life

One of the first consequences of the atomic age will be the stimulus to research in almost all the sciences. Farming will profit by breeding of new varieties of plants, better adapted to local conditions of climate or soil and eventually to mechanization of the farms. The food industry will profit by the sterilization of meats, vegetables and fruits which will preserve them without the cost of canning or refrigeration. More food will be available because plant diseases and the vermin that now destroy enormous quantities of food will themselves be eliminated by the use of new powerful radiations. The use of radioactive isotopes has already clarified the mysterious series of chemical reactions by which green leaves manufacture food out of air and sunshine and has thus opened the way to the direct and artificial synthesis of food.

Health will be improved also because the processes of life and the physiology of the human body are rapidly becoming understood. The fate of food during digestion, the role of proteins in nutrition, the reason for the failure of the internal organs, the causes for the onset of the weaknesses of old age—all these and many more are emerging from mystery into science and the result will be longer and healthier lives.

Another significant feature of the Geneva Conference was that work in all these directions was fully and freely reported with no limitations of imposed secrecy. Under such conditions advances made anywhere in the world almost at once become the property of all peoples. Geneva re-established the international republic of science in

which the conquests and discoveries, the principles and ideas of man's endless battle with nature are not nationalist but are both done and used without regard to political boundaries.

It was, however, a meeting of scientists talking to each other. It was powerless to act or to make any plans for the future. There was much talk of holding another such international meeting within two or three years. There was speculation as to whether a permanent international atomic energy agency would be set up, as was proposed by President Eisenhower in 1953, whose task it would be to promote the use of atomic power and to develop the atomic sciences for the benefit of the world. These questions were properly left to the United Nations itself.

Cheap power can bring an industrial revolution

YET the Conference did much more than merely call attention to the peaceful uses of atomic energy. It proved that the atomic age is here now. It generated high hopes for the coming of power and of industry to countries that are now lacking in them. More than this, it generated such enthusiasm that the pace of development will be greatly accelerated. It put into clear perspective the present new prospects of a better standard of living for at least half the human race. It marked, in fact, a revolution in the thinking of scientists and engineers.

Such a revolution cannot be faced lightly. It will not be possible to ignore for long, as the scientists had to, the fact that the consequences to humanity will be enormous in the years and decades to come. Plenty of cheap power means large industrial production in regions that are now unproductive and import industrial goods. It means radical alterations in the pattern of world trade. It will increase agricultural production too by making mechanization possible. New cities will be founded in areas where they are now impossible, even perhaps in the deserts. Ancient cultures will be shaken by

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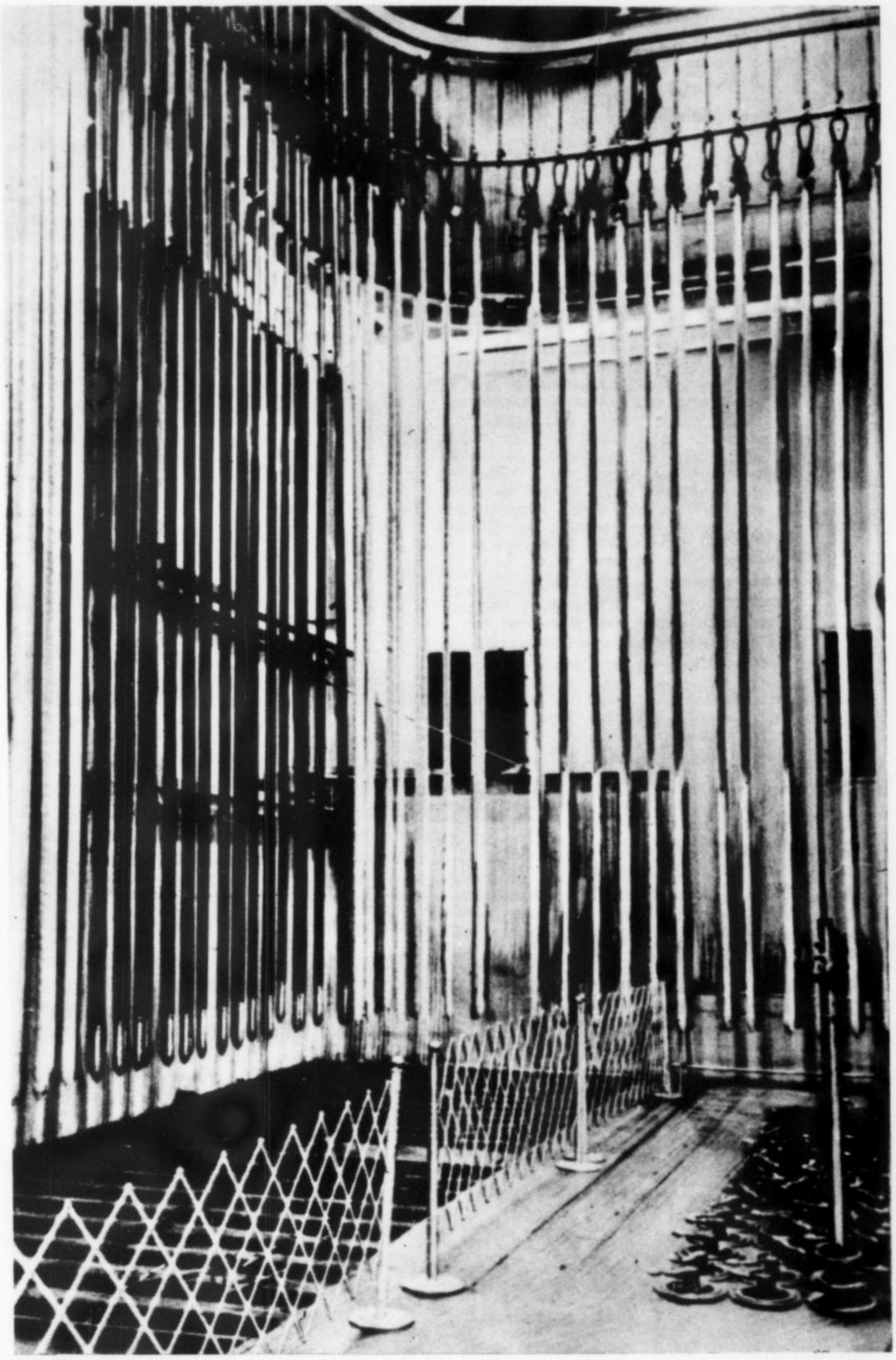
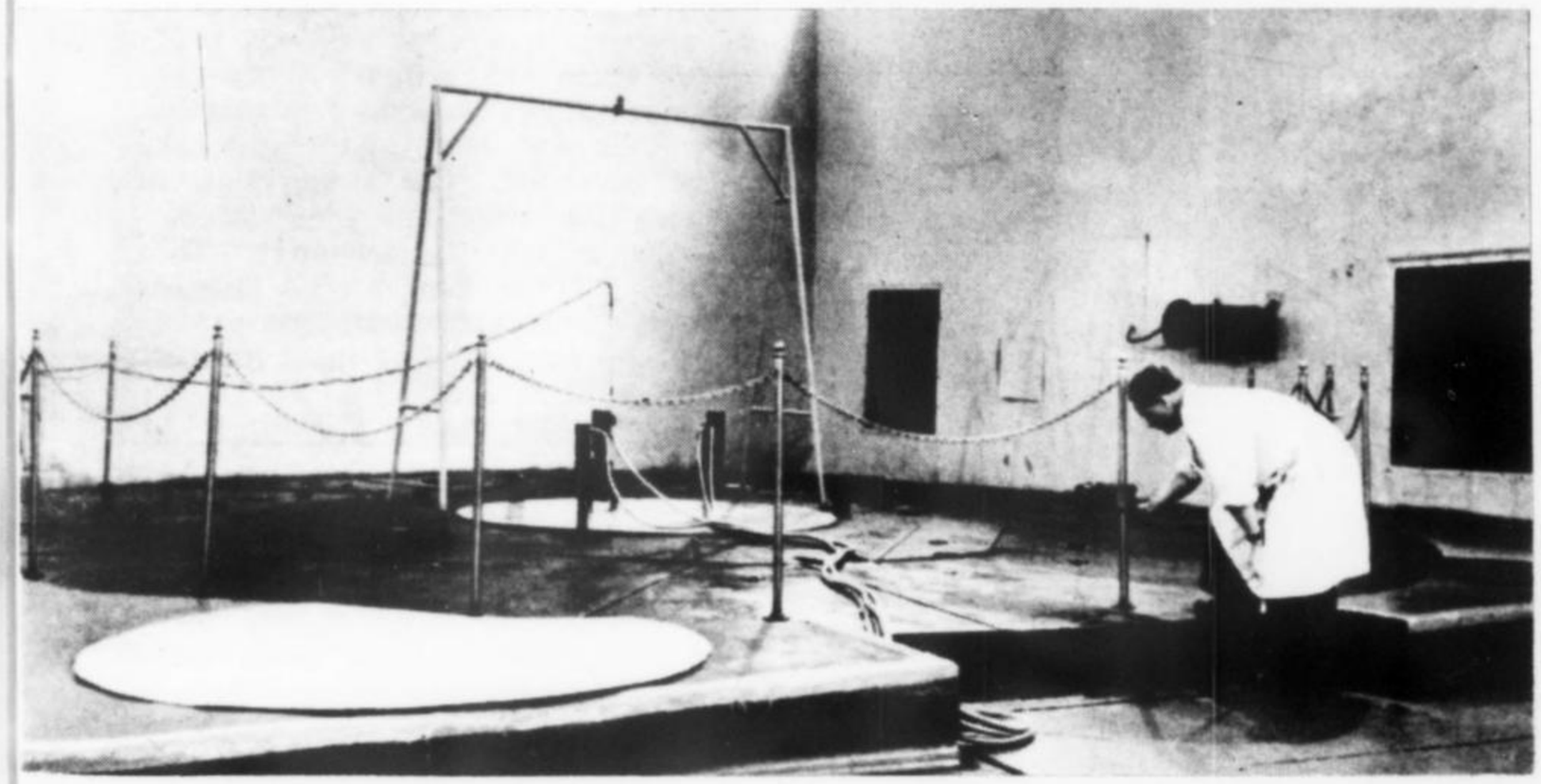


Official Soviet photos



SOVIET ATOMIC POWER PLANT

At Geneva, the Soviet Union showed photographs, drawings and model of its atomic power plant near Moscow. Since 1954 this plant has been generating electricity for neighbouring industry.
Photo, left, shows upper part of the reactor in Soviet nuclear power plant and (top photo) long tubes filled with uranium — the "fuel" used by the reactor.

THE ATOMIC FUTURE TODAY

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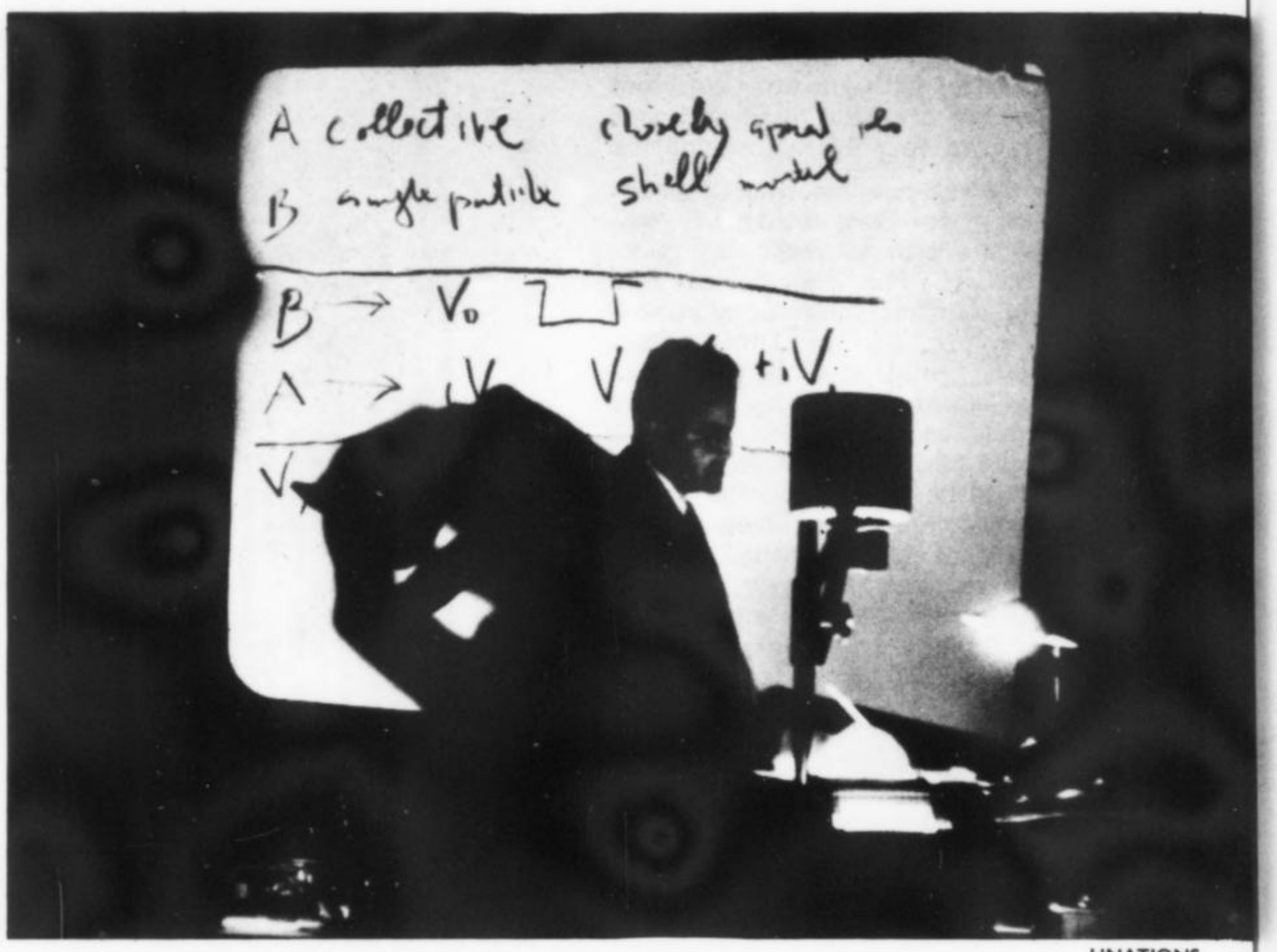

WEIRD HAND was projected as shadow on screen along with mathematical equations when U.S. scientist, V. F. Weisskopf, read scholarly paper on neutrons to Geneva Atoms for Peace Conference. Scientist's lit-up hand is seen drawing equations into epidiascope.

UNATIONS

the impact of urban conditions, higher standards of living and especially by the effect of the scientific of thought.

In the late eighteenth century the invention of the steam engine brought the industrial revolution to England and Western Europe. The first results were impressively bad in the development of city slums, the use of child labour and the exploitation of workers. Many decades were required to undo these omissions and make industry a blessing. This time the revolution can be foreseen and the economic and social readjustments can be guided to the end that the new power of the atom liberate man from his bonds, that cultural values be maintained and that the machine do man's work without making him a slave.

There is need for many an atomic conference in the future to build on the foundations laid by the scientists at Geneva an edifice worthy of the scientific vision. There is need for new principles and inventions in the field of economics, finance, law and social and international relations that are as bold as those of Einstein, Rutherford, Fermi and others in science. The physical concepts of the universe cannot be radically revised without some revision of the human world also. Revision is, in fact, now under way. But it requires leadership on the international plane equal to that shown by the world's scientists at Geneva.

The promise of atomic power for the well being of mankind is incalculable. We are now on the threshold of a new era for humanity. The next decade will show whether or not statesmen and scientists can grasp the great prize that lies before them.

The immediate demand will be for modernized education in the countries that will participate in the atomic age. Science will, more than ever, be the fundamental fact of life in that age and no country that merely superimposes the work of foreign experts on an unsympathetic culture can profit by it. From the primary school upwards not only the facts of science but its outlook and habit of thought need to be absorbed. The integration of science with older and classical cultures is a primary necessity. Thus Unesco's pioneer work for its member states in the improvement and expansion of science teaching faces a larger challenge than ever.

WHO - Eric Schwab

STRIKING SUCCESS of radio-active isotopes in medical treatment was shown by Soviet exhibit at Geneva. Photographs showed how skin blemishes, eczema and other skin diseases were cleared by use of isotopes, which are among the most important by-products of nuclear reactors.

THE AUTHOR

Dr. GERALD WENDT, *American scientist and writer, is the author of the special number of the Unesco Courier devoted to "The Promise of Atomic Power" (March 1955) published in English, French, Spanish, American, Japanese and Italian editions. At the recent Atoms for Peace Conference at Geneva, he was science consultant for the U.N. Radio.*

Letters to the Editor

Sir,

Your recent issue on "How Nations See the Foreigner" reminded me of something that may interest readers because it confirms one of the points you made.

An International Esperanto Congress, such as the one at Bologna, Italy, gives one the impression that there are no such persons as foreigners. Esperanto is the only language used in speeches and friendly conversation by the 2,000 or so delegates from 30 countries who usually attend these annual congresses. Chatting with another delegate I have often been unable to identify his country of origin, or have eventually discovered that he was... French.

For this reason I approve your idea of publishing a series of photographs of foreign "types" who in fact, were all people from Great Britain. At various times I have travelled through ten European countries and I have been taken for a Swede, an Englishman and a German—far more rarely for a Frenchman. The word foreigner is progressively losing its meaning, and this is all to the good for young people who nowadays travel more and more and who manage to correct or even forget the false stereotypes they may have had in their minds.

L. Giloteaux

Secretary, Lille-Esperanto,
8 ter/25 rue de Soubise,
Roubaix, France.

Sir,

I should like you to know how much I appreciate being a regular subscriber to the UNESCO COURIER, particularly because it is an international publication of authority and well presented.

I am a schoolboy who lives in the southern tip of Africa. Being comparatively isolated as this part of the world is, the ideals of the United Nations have so far been for me, and I should imagine for many others here too, just that—ideals, which are wonderful, but which one hardly sees in action. That was so, until I found this magazine which I think makes the ideals of U.N. far less remote and which so obviously promotes international understanding and mutual interest, through the important information it publishes and by giving a sense of international contact to its readers. It does for me anyway, and I hope the UNESCO COURIER will have a very long life.

I am 18, and I would like to correspond with readers of any nationality. My interests are chiefly music, books, physical culture, stamps and coins, geophysics, and I want one day to be well-travelled and to understand the ways and cultures of people different from those like myself i.e. of British descent. I think what I want most is for people to have the opportunity to live rationally and fully, with actions based in reason not in prejudiced belief.

Richard H. Rice

4, Mullins St.,
Mosel, Uitenhage,
South Africa.

Sir,

On Saturday when I was in a bookshop I suddenly came across your magazine. I was attracted by its striking and beautiful cover, and I liked the articles very much. I found the UNESCO COURIER a good medium which creates unity.

I also want to have a pen-friend among other people of the world. I hope you will help me with foreign countries through the UNESCO COURIER. I am of Indonesian nationality, and wish to correspond in English, and my hobbies are postage stamps and post-cards, reading and sports.

Hennyin Wong

Djl. Prof. Dr. Latumeten 1/15,
Djakarta, Indonesia.

Sir,

In an issue of the UNESCO COURIER published last year and devoted to the theme "Prisoners are People" a photograph was published of a courtyard of an Austrian prison showing barred windows. The caption stated that this gloomy building was a Viennese Correctional Institute for Juveniles. This might give the impression that the institution in question was the Correctional Institution for Juvenile Delinquents at Kaiserebersdorf near Vienna, which is under the supervision of the Federal Ministry for Education. The courtyard however is in the prison in the Court of Justice for juvenile delinquents in Vienna. This prison serves for the period of imprisonment on remand for dangerous juvenile criminals. For safety's sake, our State as well as other States, cannot abandon the prison bars on the windows.

Within the last years the Correctional Institution for Juvenile Delinquents at Kaiserebersdorf has been perfectly adapted to the modern methods used in treating juvenile delinquents. The barred windows have completely disappeared there.

Dr. E. Svoboda

Austrian National,
Commission for Unesco,
Vienna, Austria.

Sir,

On my return from work this evening my wife gave me the August UNESCO COURIER, which had just arrived, and remarked that of all our favorite magazines this one was the most fascinating. I agree. This is a very good thing, too, for there is a crying need for more human interest material about U.N. and its problems.

Citizens of all countries must be shown that the United Nations is more than dull diplomats arguing before microphones in marble halls. They must come to see that the world organization is all kinds of people, of every race and creed, working, playing, studying, praying together for a better life and a better world. If world problems demand world solutions—and who can deny that they do—the furtherance of world understanding through the U.N. and its specialized agencies is of the most urgent importance. With its human interest emphasis the UNESCO COURIER is a wonderful start toward that end.

Palmer Van Gundy

614 Seventh Street,
Santa Monica,
California, U.S.A.

A NOTE TO OUR READERS

It is now almost two years since the Unesco Courier abandoned its tabloid newspaper size and adopted the present magazine format. Since then no effort has been spared by the Editors to improve the appearance and the contents of each succeeding issue. New features and columns have been added, the number of pages has been increased, and a high quality whiter paper is now being used both for the cover in colour and the inside pages. The response of our readers throughout the world to these and other improvements has been most gratifying.

Make this a UNESCO Christmas season by presenting gift subscriptions for the UNESCO COURIER, a year around gift that renews itself each month. *And* here is our gift to *you:* with each $2.50 subscription you are entitled to order additional gift subscriptions at $2.00 each. What is more, each gift subscription will receive a colorful UNICEF greeting card in your name as donor with a gift copy of this issue mailed from the United Nations. Act now, send your check or money order with your subscription list on the coupon on the reverse side of this page to:

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From the Unesco Newsroom

'HURRY IT UP': A year ago, Unesco put into operation a scheme to assure speedy and safe international transit of scientific instruments. Since then twenty-two Unesco member states have named nearly two hundred laboratories as participants. Under the scheme a special internationally-recognized label is attached to shipments of delicate instruments. On a red background, the label carries in black ink Unesco's insignia and the words: "Protection: Delicate Measuring Instruments". Instruments carrying this label can be examined at approved dispatching or receiving laboratories rather than at border points and so avoid possible damage or delay during customs inspection.

★ **LIBRARIANS GET TOGETHER:** *The largest and by far the most important congress of librarians ever held took place recently in Brussels, Belgium, under the patronage of the Belgian Government and Unesco. Eight hundred representatives of library services from over forty countries made plans to co-ordinate action for improving library and documentation services.*

HEALTH FELLOWS: The World Health Organization has just granted its two thousandth fellowship in Europe. Its benefactor is a Greek gynaecologist, Dr. Vyrsilis Samara, who is using it to study the medical application of radio isotopes at the Royal Cancer Hospital in London. Upon her return to Greece, after completing her studies, she will take charge of the radio isotopes department at the Alexandra Hospital in Athens, the first department of its kind in Greece. The WHO's European fellowship programme began in 1947 and has since awarded fellowships to health workers in almost all European countries.

★ **ARCTIC CIRCLE SCHOOLS:** *New measures to help spread education among the populations of the Far North have been reported recently by Sweden and Norway. One of the most important was the setting up of an agricultural school well beyond the Arctic Circle at Tana, in Finnmark, Norway's most northern province. Since the war, cultivated land in Finnmark has increased by fifty per cent. From Sweden comes news of the huge success of a new "book bus" system that covers the country's far north. The "book bus" sets off each month on a tour through the small Lapp communities scattered amidst lakes and mountains. It distributes books on many topics, including novels by Lapp authors and popular children's books.*

EARTHQUAKE LOOKOUTS: One of Turkey's worst problems is earthquakes, which strike the country almost every year causing serious damage. Fighting the problem, the Turkish Government launched an ambitious research project that studies earthquake-resistant materials for construction, and also helps in warning people ahead of time. A Unesco technical assistance mission headed by Japanese seismologist Takahiro Hagiwara has been helping in the scheme. For the past two years, Professor Hagiwara has instructed Turkish school teachers on how to maintain local observation stations he helped to set up, and how to use delicate tremor-recording instruments. The teachers now send daily reports to Istanbu's new Seismological Institute, and this makes at least limited earthquake prediction possible.

★ **FREEING KNOWLEDGE:** *Twenty nations today are operating the Unesco-sponsored international agreement that exempts books, newspapers, works of art and a wide range of other educational, scientific and cultural materials from import duties. The two latest to apply the agreement are Belgium and Spain. For its part, the United Kingdom has even extended it to cover some forty overseas territories. The agreement also grants duty-free entry to newsreels, educational films, sound recordings, scientific instruments and articles for the blind if they are sent to approved institutions. Another thirteen nations have signed the convention but have not yet ratified it.*

FOREST BY MAIL: The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization is making it possible for people to get a future forest by mail. The FAO has solved the difficulty farmers and others encounter in finding out where to procure proper seeds. Through the FAO's new Forest Seed Directory, people can select the varieties they want from among the two thousand listed, and then write to one of the suppliers recommended by the FAO. In due course they will get their forest—through the mail. The scheme will also play a useful role in present day experiments in planting varieties of trees in countries wnere they normally do not grow—an important task in large conservation projects and for the reclaiming of arid lands.

★ **WORLD MUSIC CHOICES:** *Unesco is helping the International Music Council issue two special series of long-playing records under the general title of "Contemporary Musical Experiments". Series A is devoted to new means of musical expression with traditional instruments, while Series B features examples of new technical means in the realm of music. This undertaking is in addition to the IMC's two other sets which also are being issued on long-playing records—one an International Anthology of Contemporary Music and the other a World Collection of Recorded Folk Music. All four sets can now be obtained from the International Music Council at Unesco House, in Paris, on a subscription basis.*

FARMING WITHOUT SOIL: The United Nations Korean Reconstruction Agency (UNKRA) has helped the Republic of Korea set up its first hydroponic farm—a farm where plants are grown in chemicals, water and gravel rather than in soil. The new farm was opened officially at Suwon recently. It will be used for research and training by the Ministry of Agriculture and the Seoul National University. UNKRA hopes that the farm will help scientists and students unlock secrets of plant life and result in larger harvests to meet the needs of Korea's population. The one-acre farm consists of fifty-two concrete beds, in which vegetables are planted in gravel, and four concrete tanks containing water and chemicals.

★ **REBUILDING KOREA'S SCHOOLS:** *A record total of* $2,298 *in the form of Unesco Gift Coupons was received in July by the U.N. Korean Reconstruction Agency and will be used to buy classroom supplies for* 82 *schools throughout the Republic of Korea. Gift Coupons have already brought* $47,528 *to Korea from donors in seven countries. Among other schools, four engineering schools, an agricultural college and a school for the deaf, will benefit from the July coupons.*

CHILDREN COME FIRST: World Children's Day was celebrated in forty countries on 3 October. The annual event is sponsored by the International Union for Child Welfare, in Geneva Switzerland. World Children's Day in 1952 was instituted to strengthen international solidarity on behalf of children, and to stress the importance of both national and international efforts in support of this cause. The theme of this year's celebrations is : "The child must be protected beyond and above all considerations of race nationality or creed."

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Your friends and relatives will appreciate a gift subscription to the UNESCO COURIER. Each month your thoughtfulness will be remembered with the arrival of a new and exciting issue alive with illustrated features about the peoples of the world and their ways of life. Read about the latest developments in the study of the world's resources and natural phenomena as reported by world authorities in the UNESCO COURIER.

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Coming in next month's issue :

ARE WOMEN INFERIOR BEINGS?

- " No ! " says an anthropologist, " Women are superior to men ! "
- Women in primitive society – exploding some false notions
- Recent advances in women's status in education, politics and society

Don't miss these future issues :

- **HAPPY NEW YEAR AROUND THE WORLD**

  How people of different lands celebrate the New Year. Their customs and folklore irrespective of when the New Year falls for different religions and cultures.

- **WHAT'S WRONG WITH OUR TEXT-BOOKS ?**

  Distortion of history in school books. Text-book publishing—a great unknown industry.

- **KILLERS OF THE INSECT WORLD**

  Modern "plagues" spread by insects. The staggering toll in death, ill-health and poverty of insect-borne diseases.

- **2,500 YEARS OF BUDDHISM**

  The influence of Buddha—the Enlightened One—on almost 500,000,000 people of Asia. The great monasteries of Burma, Thailand, Tibet. The fabulous riches of Buddhist art.

- **WELCOME STRANGER**

  International fellowships and exchanges of people between countries as one of the most powerful ways of building peace and international understanding. Unesco's exchange programme. Student and teacher exchange. Workers abroad.

- **WONDERLAND OF MUSEUMS**

  A voyage of discovery into art, science, industry and natural history in the modern museums of today. Museums that tell the fascinating story of metals, wine, textiles, tobacco. The dusty "cemeteries" of yesterday transformed.

The UNESCO Courier
A WINDOW OPEN ON THE WORLD

MORE TO EAT

World agricultural production has risen by nearly 30 % in ten years, and the rate of increase of world food production now outstrips world population gain. These are two of the striking facts revealed by the Food and Agriculture Organization on its tenth anniversary (see details on page 30). Despite mechanisation traditional methods are still used. Here, Anuk tribesmen from Ethiopia are seen threshing millet by hand.

(UNATIONS)